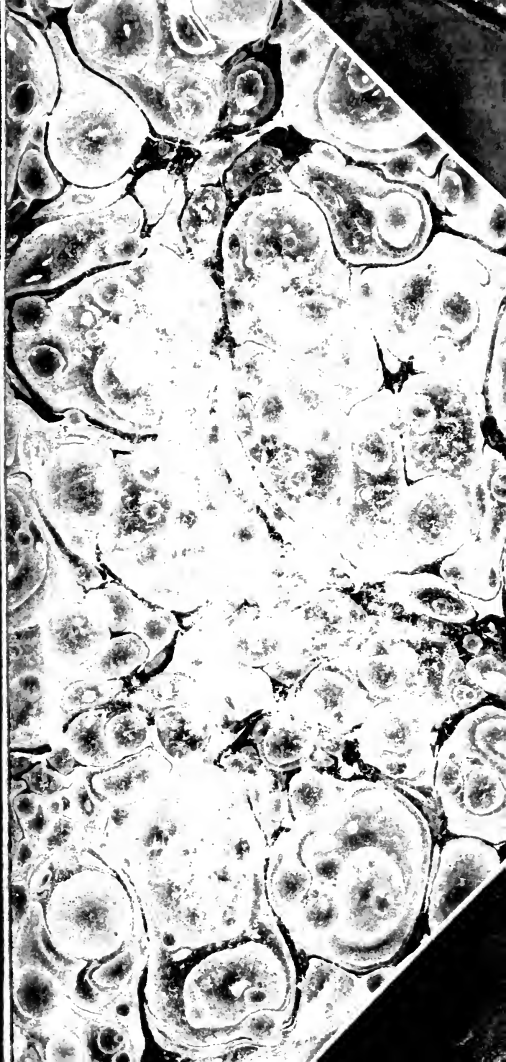


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THE LIBRARY
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TOPOGRAPHY
OF
Great Britain,
OR,
BRITISH TRAVELLER'S
POCKET DIRECTORY;
BEING AN ACCURATE AND COMPREHENSIVE
TOPOGRAPHICAL AND STATISTICAL DESCRIPTION
OF
ALL THE COUNTIES
IN
England, Scotland, and Wales,
WITH THE
ADJACENT ISLANDS:
ILLUSTRATED WITH
MAPS OF THE COUNTIES,
WHICH FORM
A COMPLETE BRITISH ATLAS.

BY *G. A. COOKE, ESQ.*

VOL. XIII.

CONTAINING
GLOUCESTERSHIRE AND HEREFORDSHIRE.



London:

Printed, by Assignment from the Executors of the late C. Cooke,
FOR
SHERWOOD, NEELY, AND JONES, PATERNOSTER-ROW
AND SOLD BY ALL BOOKSELLERS.

R. McMillan, Printer,
Bow-Street, Covent-Garden.

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A TABLE OF THE PRINCIPAL TOWNS

IN

GLOUCESTERSHIRE ;

Their Distance from London. Markets. Houses. and Inhabitants. with the Time of the Arrival and Departure of the Post.

Towns.	Dist.	Markets	Houses.	Inhabitants	Post arrives.	Post departs
Berkeley	118	Wed.	124	616	4½ aft.	9 m.
Campden	87	Wed.	278	1214	11 m.	4 aft.
Cheltenham	95	Thurs.	821	8525	10 m.	4½ aft.
Cirencester	88	M. F.	902	4546	8 m.	5 aft.
Colford	124	Friday.	258	1551		
Great Dean	117	Monday.	121	585		
Dursley	107	Thurs.	489	2580	3 aft.	10 m.
Fairford	79	Thurs.	295	1444	7 m.	6½ aft.
Frampton	108		172	848		
Gloucester	105	W. S.	1509	8280	11½ m.	5 aft.
Lechlade	75	Tues.	195	995	6½ m.	7½ aft.
Marshfield	102	Tues.	272	1415		
Minching-hampton	98	Thurs.	72	558	12 n.	1½ aft.
Moreton on Marsh	82	Tues.	194	928	7½ m.	7 aft.
Newent	111	Friday.	494	2588	5 aft.	10 m.
Newnham	111	Friday.	150	842	4 aft.	9 m.
Northleach	82	Wed.	189	647	8 m.	8½ aft.
Painswick	94	Tues.	641	3201	2 aft.	10 m.
Stanley Leonard ..	103		111	538		
Stow-on-the-Wold	81	Thurs.	252	1188		
Stroud	101	Friday.	1064	5821	10½ aft.	5 aft.
Tetbury	98	Wed.	499	2588	12 n.	1 aft.
Tewkesbury	103	Satur.	959	4820	11½ aft.	2 aft.
Thornbury	124	Satur.	202	1098	8 aft.	5 m.
Wickware	108	Monday.	151	805	4 aft.	7 m.
Winchcombe	95	Satur.	287	1256	12 n.	3 aft.
Wotton-under-Edge	108	Friday.	298	1527		

The price of postage for a single letter, throughout the county, varies from

Sd. 10 9d.

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TOPOGRAPHICAL
 AND
STATISTICAL DESCRIPTION
 OF THE
COUNTY OF GLOUCESTER;

Containing an Account of its

Situation,	Mines,	Agriculture,
Extent,	Minerals,	Fairs,
Towns,	Fisheries,	Markets,
Roads,	Manufactures,	Curiosities,
Rivers,	Trade,	Antiquities,
Lakes,	Commerce,	Natural History,

Civil and Ecclesiastical Jurisdictions, &c.

To which is prefixed,

A COPIOUS TRAVELLING GUIDE;

Exhibiting, at one View, the direct and principal Cross Roads, Inns,
and Distance of Stages, Noblemen's and Gentlemen's Seats;

FORMING

A COMPLETE COUNTY ITINERARY.

The whole interspersed with a variety of Information, entertaining to the general Reader; highly beneficial to the Agriculturist, Trader, and Manufacturer; and particularly interesting to the Traveller, Speculatist, Antiquary, and to every Inhabitant of the County.

BY G. A. COOKE, ESQ.

Editor of the Universal System of Geography

Illustrated with

A MAP OF THE COUNTY.

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A TABLE OF THE PRINCIPAL TOWNS

IN

GLOUCESTERSHIRE;

Their Distance from London, Markets, Houses, and Inhabitants; with the Time of the Arrival and Departure of the Post.

Towns.	Dist.	Markets.	Houses.	Inhabi- tants.	Post arrives.	Post departs.
Berkeley	113	Wed.	124	616	4½ aft.	9 m.
Campden.....	87	Wed.	273	1214	11 m.	4 aft.
Cheltenham.....	95	Thurs.	822	8325	10 m.	4¾ aft.
Cirencester	88	M. F.	902	4540	8 m.	5 aft.
Colford	124	Friday.	253	1551		
Great Dean	117	Monday.	121	535		
Dursley	107	Thurs.	489	2580	3 aft.	10 m.
Fairford	79	Thurs.	295	1444	7 m.	6½ aft.
Frampton	103		172	848		
Gloucester	105	W. S.	1509	8280	11½ m.	3 aft.
Lechlade	75	Tues.	195	993	6¼ m.	7¼ aft.
Marshfield	102	Tues.	272	1415		
Minching-hampton	98	Thurs.	72	333	12 n.	1½ aft.
Moreton on Marsh	82	Tues.	194	928	7¾ m.	7 aft.
Newent	111	Friday.	494	2538	3 aft.	10 m.
Newnham	114	Friday.	150	842	4 aft.	9 m.
Northleach	82	Wed.	139	647	8 m.	8½ aft.
Painswick	94	Tues.	641	3201	2 aft.	10 m.
Stanley Leonard ..	103		111	538		
Stow-on-the-Wold	81	Thurs.	252	1188		
Stroud	101	Friday.	1064	5321	10½ aft.	3 aft.
Tetbury	98	Wed.	499	2533	12 n.	1 aft.
Tewkesbury	103	Satur.	959	4820	11¼ aft.	2 aft.
Thornbury	124	Satur.	202	1093	8 aft.	5 m.
Wickware	108	Monday.	151	805	4 aft.	7 m.
Winchcombe	95	Satur.	237	1256	12 n.	3 aft.
Wotton-under-Edge	108	Friday.	293	1527		

The price of postage for a single letter, throughout the county, varies from 8d. to 9d.

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INDEX OF DISTANCES FROM 'TOWN TO 'TOWN,
In the County of Gloucester.

The Names of the respective Towns are on the top and side, and the square where both meet, gives the Distance.

Gloucester		distant from London		Miles
Berkeley	16	Berkeley	105	105
Campden	29 45	Campden	113	113
Cheltenham	9 25 20	Cheltenham	87	87
Cirencester	17 25 20 15	Cirencester	95	95
Colford	20 12 49 29 37	Colford	88	88
Great Dean	11 15 40 20 28	Great Dean	124	124
Dursley	15 6 44 24 20	Dursley	113	113
Fairford	25 31 27 23	Fairford	107	107
Lechlade	28 37 30 26	Lechlade	79	79
Marshfield	33 22 55 31	Marshfield	75	75
Minching-hampton	14 13 30 20	Minching-hampton	102	102
Morton on Marsh	30 46	Morton on the Marsh	98	98
Newent	9 20 38	Newent	82	82
Northleach	22 34 20 13	Northleach	111	111
Painswick	7 12 32	Painswick	82	82
Stanley Leonard	12 9 39	Stanley Leonard	94	94
Stow-on-the-Wold	26 37 12	Stow-on-the-Wold	103	103
Stroud	10 12 41	Stroud	81	81
Tetbury	19 14 39	Tetbury	101	101
Tewkesbury	10 26 19	Tewkesbury	98	98
Thornbury	22 7 51	Thornbury	103	103
Wickware	24 8 50	Wickware	124	124
Winchcombe	17 33 13	Winchcombe	108	108
Wotton-under-Edge	19 7 48	Wotton-under-Edge	95	95

AN INSPECTION TABLE FOR THE COUNTY OF GLOUCESTER.

Bounded by	Extent.	Contains	Sends to Parliament	Produce & Manufactures.
Herefordshire on the north-west;	In length, from north-east to south-west, about 70 miles.	One city, viz. Gloucester.	8 Members, viz.	Gloucester is remarkable for the produce of its dairies and cyder.
Oxfordshire, and a small part of Berkshire, on the east;	In breadth about 35 miles.	28 market-towns, 28 hundreds, 320 parishes,	2 for the county, 2 for Gloucester, 2 for Tewkesbury, 2 for Cirencester.	Its manufactures various, viz.
Wiltshire on the north; and	In superficies about 1,100,000 acres.	52,042 houses, 285,514 inhabitants.		Woollens, Carpets, Stockings, Iron and hardware, Brass and wire, Vitriol, red lead, &c. Pins.
By part of Somersetshire, the Bristol Channel, and Monmouthshire.				

Gloucestershire, with the exception of the chapelries of Jam and Cowhoneyborn, is included within the diocese of Gloucester, which comprehends one archdeaconry and ten deaneries, and is in the province of Canterbury.

AN ITINERARY OF THE DIRECT AND PRINCIPAL CROSS ROADS IN GLOUCESTERSHIRE:

IN WHICH ARE INCLUDED
THE STAGES, INNS, AND GENTLEMEN'S SEATS.

N.B. The first Column contains the Names of Places passed through; the Figures that follow, shew the Distances from Place to Place, Town to Town, and Stages; and in the last Column are the Names of Gentlemen's Seats and Inns. The right and left of the Roads are distinguished by the letters R. and L.

LONDON TO GLOUCESTER.

Kensington Gravel Pits		1 $\frac{1}{2}$	Holland-House, Lord Holland, L.; Norland-House H. Drummond, esq. R.
Shepherd's Bush	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	3	Inn: White Horse.
Acton	1 $\frac{3}{4}$	4 $\frac{3}{4}$	Bury-Mead Lodge, J. Acres, esq. L.; Heathfield Lodge, J. Winter, esq. R.; at the end of Acton is Bank-House, Mrs. Payne, R.
Ealing Common	1	5 $\frac{3}{4}$	Hanger-Hill, G. Wood, esq. R.; Castlebear Hill,—Cocker, esq. R.
Ealing	$\frac{3}{4}$	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Old Hats	1	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	Osterley-park, Earl of Jersey, L.
Hanwell	$\frac{3}{4}$	8 $\frac{1}{4}$	Hanwell-park, Countess de Salis, R.
On L. a T. R. to Brentford.			
SOUTHALL	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	9 $\frac{1}{2}$	Southall-park, Rev. Dr. Collins—Inns: Red Lion, White Hart.

Hayes	$2\frac{1}{4}$	$11\frac{1}{4}$	Inn: <i>Angel</i> .
<i>Cross Hilling-</i> <i>don Heath to</i>			
Hillingdon	$1\frac{1}{2}$	$13\frac{1}{4}$	<i>Cedar-House, — Mawhood,</i> <i>esq. R.; at Little Hilling-</i> <i>don, Hillingdon - House,</i> <i>—Cox, esq.; just beyond</i> <i>the 14th M. S. The Lodge,</i> <i>J. Chippendale, esq. R.</i>
Uxbridge	$1\frac{1}{2}$	$14\frac{3}{4}$	Inns: <i>King's Arms, Three</i> <i>Tuns, and White Horse.</i>
<i>Cross the Colne</i> <i>R.; and the Grand</i> <i>Junction Canal, &</i> <i>enter Bucks.</i>			
Red Hill	$2\frac{1}{4}$	17	<i>On the top Denham Mount,</i> <i>—Snell, esq. On R. is Oak</i> <i>End, R. Sewell, esq.</i>
<i>At the 18th M. S.</i> <i>on R. a T. R. to</i> <i>Amersham and Ay-</i> <i>lesbury.</i>			
Tatling End	1	18	
Gerard's Cross . .	$1\frac{3}{4}$	$19\frac{3}{4}$	<i>Bulstrode, Duke of Somerset</i> <i>—Inn: The Bull.</i>
Beaconsfield	$3\frac{1}{2}$	$23\frac{1}{4}$	<i>Wilton-park, Josiah Du Pré,</i> <i>esq.; beyond on L. Great-</i> <i>hall Barn, the ancient seat</i> <i>of Waller, Rev. E. Waller</i> <i>—Inn: Saracen's Head.</i>
Hotspur Heath . .	$1\frac{1}{2}$	$24\frac{1}{2}$	Inn: <i>The King's Head.</i>
Loud Water	$1\frac{1}{2}$	26	
Wycombe Marsh . .	$1\frac{1}{4}$	$27\frac{1}{4}$	Inn: <i>The Red Lion.</i>
HIGH WYCOMBE . .	$1\frac{1}{2}$	$28\frac{3}{4}$	<i>Wycombe Abbey, Lord Car-</i> <i>rington, L.—Inn: Red</i> <i>Lion.</i>
<i>On R. a T. R.</i> <i>to Amersham; on</i> <i>L. to Great Mar-</i> <i>low.</i>			
West Wycombe . .	$2\frac{3}{4}$	$31\frac{1}{2}$	<i>Sir John Dashwood King, L.</i>
Ham Farm	$\frac{3}{4}$	$32\frac{1}{4}$	
<i>A little before</i> <i>Stoken Church on</i>			

<i>L. a T. R. to Great Marlow.</i>			
Stoken Church, Oxon	4	$36\frac{1}{4}$	1 mile on L. Wormsley, J. Fane, esq. From Stoken Church Hill, see on R. Aston Rowant, P. Wycomb, esq.; on L. Lewknor Grove, Mrs. Davis. From the 37th M. S. $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles on L. see Sherburn Castle, Earl of Macclesfield; and from the 41st M. S. see on L. Wheatfield-house, Lord Chas. Spencer, and Adwell-place, Mrs. Jones.
Post Combe On R. a T. R. to Thame.	$3\frac{3}{4}$	40	
Tetsworth	$2\frac{1}{4}$	$42\frac{1}{4}$	Thame-park, Miss Wickham, R.
Hutt	$2\frac{1}{4}$	$44\frac{1}{2}$	1 mile on R. Rycote-park, Earl of Abingdon—Inns: Royal Oak, Swan.
On R. a T. R. to Thame, on L. to Wallingford.			
Wheatley	$3\frac{3}{4}$	$48\frac{3}{4}$	Waterperry, H. Curzon, esq. R.; Holton-park, E. Biscoe, esq. R.; 1 mile on L. Shotover, T. Schuby, esq.—Inn: The Crown.
On L. the old road to Oxford over Shotover- hill, and about 1 mile further on R. Chipping Norton.			
Forest Hill	$1\frac{3}{4}$	50	
Headington	$2\frac{1}{4}$	$52\frac{1}{4}$	
Headington Hill	1	$53\frac{1}{4}$	
On L. old road to Wheatley.			
St. Clements	$\frac{1}{2}$	$53\frac{3}{4}$	
On L. a T. R. to			

Henley Cross; the
Charwell, R.

OXFORD $3\frac{1}{4}$ 54 $\frac{1}{2}$

At the junction
of roads from Ab-
ingdon and Glou-
cester, on R. a
T. R. to Woodstock
and Bicester, on L.
to Abingdon. Cross
several branches of
the Isis R.

Botley, Berks . . $1\frac{1}{2}$ 56

On L. by the
new road, avoiding
Eynsham and Bot-
ley-hills to the Isis
or Thames, re-enter
Oxfordshire.

Eynsham $4\frac{1}{4}$ 60 $\frac{1}{4}$

Cross Eynsham
Heath.

Hill Houses . . . $3\frac{1}{4}$ 63 $\frac{1}{2}$

Shores Green . . $\frac{3}{4}$ 64 $\frac{1}{4}$

Witney $1\frac{1}{2}$ 65 $\frac{3}{4}$

Cross the Wain-
rush, R. On R. a
T. R. to Woodstock,
about 1 mile before
Burford take the
new road on L. to

Burford $7\frac{1}{4}$ 73

On R. T. R. to
Stow, on L. to
Farringdon, about
1 mile from Bur-
ford on L. to Ci-
rencester.

Barrington 3 76

Inns: The Angel, King's
Arms, Roe Buck, and Star.

1 mile beyond Botley-bridge,
see on R. Wytham, Earl of
Abingdon.

Eynsham-hall, Hon. Thos.
Parker, 2 miles on R.

Staple-hall-inn.

Swinbrook, Lord Redesdale,
R.—Inns: The Bull, and
George.

Barrington-park, Hon. and
Rev. E. Rice, and 3 miles

				<i>further, Sherborne, Lord Sherborne. The New-inn.</i>
NORTHLEACH ..	6	82		<i>Farmington, T. Willan, esq.</i>
<i>Through North-leach on R. a T. R. to Stow, on L. to Cirencester.</i>				
Frog-Mill Inn ..	$6\frac{3}{4}$	$88\frac{3}{4}$		<i>Sandywell-park, Mrs. Light-bourne.—Frog-Mill inn.</i>
Dowdswell	2	$90\frac{3}{4}$		
Charlton Kings ..	$2\frac{1}{4}$	$93\frac{1}{4}$		
<i>On L. a T. R. to Stroud.</i>				
CHELTENHAM ..	$1\frac{3}{4}$	$94\frac{3}{4}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	<i>mile W. of Cheltenham on an eminence, is Fauconberg-house—Inns: Fleece, George Hotel, and Plough Hotel.</i>
Alstone Green ..	$\frac{1}{4}$	95		
<i>Junction with the</i>				
Old Road	$3\frac{1}{4}$	$98\frac{1}{4}$		
Watton	$3\frac{3}{4}$	102		
GLOUCESTER	1	103		<i>Inns: Bell, Booth Hall, King's Head.</i>

BRISTOL TO TEWKESBURY, THROUGH GLOUCESTER.

BRISTOL to				<i>Inns: Bush, Full Moon, Tulbot, White Hart, White Lion.</i>
Horfield		$2\frac{1}{2}$		<i>Stoke Gifford-park, Dowager Duchess of Beaufort, R.</i>
Filton	$1\frac{3}{4}$	$4\frac{1}{4}$		<i>Pen-park, — Barnsley, esq. L.</i>
Almondsbury ..	3	$7\frac{1}{4}$		<i>Knowl-park, S. Worrall, esq. L.</i>
Rudgway	$1\frac{3}{4}$	9		<i>Tockington, Sam. P. Peach, esq. R.</i>
<i>On L. a T. R. to Aust Passage Inn.</i>				

Alveston	$3\frac{3}{4}$	$9\frac{3}{4}$	Edward Watkins, esq. L. a mile and a quarter beyond Alveston, on L. Groves- end, Nathaniel Crowther, esq.
On R. a T. R. to Chipping Sod- bury.			
Falfield	$4\frac{3}{4}$	$14\frac{1}{2}$	Tortworth-park, Lord Du- cie, R.
Stone	$1\frac{1}{2}$	16	
Newport	$1\frac{3}{4}$	$17\frac{3}{4}$	Inns: Red Lion, Crown.
Berkeley Heath ..	$1\frac{1}{4}$	19	Inn: Bell.
On L. a T. R. to Berkeley.			At Berkeley, the Castle, Co- lonel Berkeley, L.
A mile farther on R. a T. R. to Dursley.			
Cambridge Inn ..	4	23	Gossington Hall, Henry Jones, esq. L.
On R. a T. R. to Dursley.			
Church End, T. G.	$2\frac{1}{4}$	$25\frac{1}{4}$	
On L. a T. R. to Bristol.			
Cross the Stroud river and Canal.			
Whitminster Inn	$1\frac{1}{2}$	$26\frac{3}{4}$	
On R. a T. R. to Stroud.			
Putloe	$1\frac{1}{4}$	28	
Parkin Green ..	$\frac{3}{4}$	$28\frac{3}{4}$	
Harkwick Elm ..	$1\frac{3}{4}$	$30\frac{1}{2}$	Hardwicke-house, T. J. L. Baker, esq. L.
On R. a T. R. to Stroud.			
Quedgeley	$\frac{3}{4}$	$31\frac{1}{4}$	Quedgeley-house, Mrs. Cur- tis Hayward, L.
— — —			Hempstead-house, Lord J. Somerset, L.
GLOUCESTER	$3\frac{1}{4}$	$34\frac{1}{2}$	Inns: King's Head, Bell, Booth Hall.
On R. a T. R. to Stroud.			
Longford	$1\frac{1}{2}$	36	
Twigworth	$1\frac{1}{4}$	$37\frac{1}{4}$	

to *Malmsbury*, and
within a mile of
Cirencester, on L.
a T. R. to *Minch-*
ing-Hampton.

CIRENCESTER .. $3\frac{1}{2}$ 36

Inns: *King's Head*, *Ram*.
The Abbey, *Thomas Master*,
esq.; and *Oukley-park*,
Earl Bathurst, L.

CIRENCESTER TO MORETON-IN-THE-MARSH,

THROUGH STOW-ON-THE-WOLD.

CIRENCESTER to

Newhouse 3 3

Foss Cross 3 6

Foss Bridge $1\frac{1}{4}$ $7\frac{1}{4}$

Broad-water Bot-
tom $6\frac{1}{2}$ $13\frac{3}{4}$

Stow Bridge $2\frac{1}{2}$ $16\frac{1}{4}$

On R. a T. R.
to *Burford*.

Farmington, *Rev. J. Wal-*
ler, and *Bourton-on-the-*
hill, *R. Stowell*, *Lord*
Stowell. And at *Lower*
Slaughter, *G. G. Mills*,
esq. L.

Stow-on-the-Wold $2\frac{3}{4}$ 19

On R. a T. R.
to *Chipping Nor-*
ton, on L. T. R's.
to *Gloucester* and
Tewkesbury.

Inn: *Unicorn*.

Tunington $1\frac{1}{2}$ $20\frac{1}{2}$

Moreton in the
Marsh $2\frac{1}{2}$ 23

Inns: *Unicorn*, and *White*
Hart.

BRISTOL TO DURSLEY, THROUGH WOTTON-UNDER-EDGE.

BRISTOL to			
Stapleton	2	2	Stoke Gifford, Dowager
Hambrook	3	5	Duchess of Beaufort, L.
Half a mile be- fore Iron Acton, on L. a T. R. to Aust Passage.			French-hay, E. Harford, esq. R.
Iron Acton	4	9	
On R. a T. R. to Sodbury.			
Mudge Down ..	1	10	
On R. a T. R. to Wickware.			
Rangesworth	$\frac{3}{4}$	$10\frac{3}{4}$	
Long Cross	$3\frac{1}{4}$	14	
Woodend	1	15	J. D. Mathews, esq. beyond on L. Tortworth - Court, Lord Ducie.
A mile farther on R. a T. R. to Wickware.			
WOTTON - UNDER- EDGE	5	20	Inn:—Star. Bradley-House, T. Nelmes, esq. L.
Beyond on R. a T. R. to Minch- ing-Hampton.			
Westridge Hill ..	$1\frac{1}{4}$	$21\frac{1}{4}$	
DURSLEY	$1\frac{3}{4}$	23	Inns:—Lamb, Old Bull.

BRISTOL TO CHEPSTOW.

BRISTOL to			
Westbury	$3\frac{3}{4}$	$3\frac{3}{4}$	Cote-House, J. Wedgewood, esq. L.
Compton Green Field	$3\frac{1}{4}$	7	Knowle, Samuel Worrall, esq. R.
Beyond on L. a T. R. to the New Passage.			

Aust, or Old Passage-House Inn	5	12	Inn:—Aust, or Old Passage House.
Cross the Severn to			
Beachley Passage-house Inn	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	13 $\frac{1}{2}$	Inn: — Beachley-Passage House.
Junction of the Roads	2 $\frac{3}{4}$	16 $\frac{1}{4}$	St. Pierre, C. Lewis, esq. L.
On R. a T. R. to Gloucester.			
Cross the river			Piercefield, N. Wells, esq.
Wye to			
CHEPSTOW	$\frac{1}{2}$	16 $\frac{3}{4}$	Inns: — Beaufort Arms, George.

MARSHFIELD TO BRISTOL.

MARSHFIELD to			Inn:—Catherine Wheel.
Two miles and a half beyond on R. a T. R. to Gloucester; on L. to Bath.			
Tog Hill	3	3	Dyrham, William Blaythwaite, esq. R. and a little farther on L. Hamsel-House, T. Whittington, esq.
On R. a T. R. to Gloucester; on L. to Bath.			
Wick	1 $\frac{3}{4}$	4 $\frac{3}{4}$	Bury-House, Hen. Hilman, esq. R.; Highfield, R. Haynes, esq. L.
Warmley	2	6 $\frac{3}{4}$	
St. George	2 $\frac{1}{4}$	9	Stoke, Dowager Duchess of Beaufort, R.
On L. a T. R. to Bath.			
BRISTOL	2	11	

BATH TO CHELTENHAM,

THROUGH DUNKIRK AND STROUD.

BATH to			
Swainswick	3	3	<i>Bailbrook-lodge, Col. Tuffnell.</i>
Tog Hill	2	5	<i>Hansel-house, Thomas Whit-</i>
On R. a T. R.			<i>tington, esq. R. Tracy</i>
to Marshfield; on			<i>Park.</i>
L. to Bristol.			
Dyrham Park ..	$1\frac{3}{4}$	$6\frac{3}{4}$	<i>Dyrham-park, William Blay-</i>
Toll Down-house	$1\frac{3}{4}$	$8\frac{1}{2}$	<i>thwaite, esq.</i>
On R. a T. R.			<i>Doddington-park, Sir Chris.</i>
to Chippenham.			<i>Bethell Codrington, bart. L.</i>
Cross-hands Inn	3		
On R. a T. R.			
to Chippenham;			
on L. to Chipping			
Sodbury.			
Petty France ..	3	$14\frac{1}{2}$	<i>Inn:—Beaufort Arms.</i>
Dunkirk	$\frac{1}{2}$	15	<i>Badminton-park, Duke of</i>
On R. a T. R.			<i>Beaufort, R.</i>
to Tetbury.			
Lasborough	4	19	
Beyond on R. a			
T. R. to Tetbury.			
Kingscote	1	20	<i>Boxwell-court, Rev. Rich.</i>
On L. a T. R.			<i>Huntley, L. Lasborough,</i>
to Dursley.			<i>E. Estcourt, esq.</i>
Tipput's Inn	$1\frac{1}{2}$	$21\frac{1}{2}$	<i>Inn:—Hunters' Hall.</i>
			<i>Col. Kingscote, R.</i>
Horsley	$\frac{3}{4}$	$22\frac{1}{4}$	<i>Chavenage-house, R. J. D.</i>
On L. a T. R.			<i>Phelps, esq.</i>
to Wotton-under-			
Edge.			
Nailsworth	1	$23\frac{1}{4}$	
On R. a T. R. to			
Minching-Hamp-			
ton.			
Inchborough	1	$24\frac{1}{4}$	

Rodborough	2	26 $\frac{1}{4}$	Dunkirk-house, Rev. H. Campbell; R. Pudd-hill-house, R. Cooper, esq. and Spring-park, Lord Ducie, L.
on R. a T. R. to Minching-Hampton.			
Cross the Stroud river and Canal to			
STROUD	$\frac{3}{4}$	27	Pagan-hill, Richard Cooke, esq.; and Dudbridge, John Hawker, esq. L.
On R. a T. R. to Cirencester.			
Painswick	4	31	Painswick-house, W. H. Hyett, esq. L.
On R. a T. R. to Cirencester, on L. to Gloucester.			
— — —			Prinknash-park, T. J. Howell, esq. L.
Cranham Wood	5	36	Whitcombe-park, Sir W. Hicks, bart. L.
Birdlip	1	37	
On R. a T. R. to Cirencester; on L. to Gloucester, and a mile farther, on R. to Stow-on-the-Wold; on L. to Gloucester.			
Leckhampton . .	4	41	Leckhampton-court, Henry Norwood Trye, esq. L.
Beyond on R. a T. R. to North-leach.			
CHELTENHAM . .	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	43 $\frac{1}{2}$	Inns:—Plough, George, and and Royal Hotels, Fleece, Bell, Lamb, &c.

CIRENCESTER TO BERKELEY,
THROUGH MINCHING-HAMPTON.

CIRENCESTER to
A mile from
Cirencester on L.
a T. R. to Tet-
bury.

Keep Oakley-
park to the R.

MINCHING-HAMP-
TON

10 10

Inns:—Crown, Glazier's
Arms.

On L. a T. R.
to Tetbury, and
through the town
on L. to Dunkirk.

Rodborough

2½ 12½

Hill-house, L. Sir J. D. Paul,
bart.

On R. a T. R.
to Stroud; on L.
cross the Stroud
Canal to

Cain Cross

1½ 14

Beyond on R. a
T. R. to Gloucester;
on L. to

Stanley

1½ 15½

Stanley-park, H. Burgh, esq.;
and a little farther Spring-
park, Lord Ducie, L.

Frocester

2¼ 17¾

On R. a T. R.
to Gloucester; on
L. to Cross-hands
Inn, and beyond
on L. to

Cambridge Inn . .

2½ 20¼

Gossington-hall, J. Peck, esq.
R.

Berkeley Heath . .

4 24¼

BERKELEY

1½ 25¾

The Castle, Col. Berkeley.

CIRENCESTER TO DURSLEY,

THROUGH TETBURY.

CIRENCESTER to
The Canal

3½ 3½

On L. a T. R.
to Malmsbury; on
R. to

TETBURY

6¾ 10¾

Inns:—White Hart, Talbot,
Three Cups.

On R. a T. R. to
Minching-Hamp-
ton; on L. to
Malmsbury.

Beverstone	2	12 $\frac{1}{4}$	Chavenage House, J. D. Phelps, esq. R.; and about a mile farther on R. Calcot Farm.
Near Kingscote on L. a T. R. to Dunkirk.			
Kingscote	2	14 $\frac{1}{4}$	Inns:—Hunters' Hall. Col. Kingscote, R.
On R. a T. R. to Minching-Hampton; on L. to			
DURSLEY	5 $\frac{3}{4}$	20	Inns:—Old Bell, Lamb.

NORTHLEACH TO LEA,

THROUGH CHELTENHAM AND GLOUCESTER.

NORTHLEACH to Frog-mill Inn . .	6 $\frac{3}{4}$	6 $\frac{3}{4}$	Sandywell-park, Mrs. Lightbourne, R.
Beyond on L. a T. R. to Gloucester; on R. to Stow.			
Dowdswell	2	8 $\frac{3}{4}$	Edward Rogers, esq. L.
Charlton	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	11 $\frac{1}{4}$	William Hunt Prinn, esq.
Cadnall	$\frac{3}{4}$	12	
A little beyond on L. a T. R. to Stroud.			
CHELTENHAM . .	1	13	Inns:—Plough, George, and Royal Hotels, Fleece, Bell, Lamb, &c.
Bedlam	1 $\frac{3}{4}$	14 $\frac{3}{4}$	
On R. a T. R. to Tewkesbury; on L. to			
Heydon's Elm . .	1 $\frac{3}{4}$	16 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Junction of the Road from Whitcombe	5	21 $\frac{1}{2}$	Margaret and Magdalen Hospitals, L.
On L. a T. R. to Cirencester.			
GLOUCESTER	1	22 $\frac{1}{2}$	Inns:—King's Head, Bell, Booth-hall.
On R. a T. R. to Tewkesbury; on L. to Bath.			At Matson, Lord Viscount Sydney, L.
Cross the Severn river, and the			

Gloucester Canal, to			
Highnam	$2\frac{1}{4}$	$24\frac{3}{4}$	Highnam-park, Sir B. W. Guise, bart.
On R. a T. R.			
to Newent.			
Churcham	$1\frac{3}{4}$	$26\frac{1}{2}$	
Huntley, T. G. ..	$3\frac{1}{4}$	$29\frac{3}{4}$	Mrs. Blunt.
On L. a T. R.			
to Great Dean:			
on R. to			
Durley Cross ..	$1\frac{3}{4}$	$31\frac{1}{2}$	
Longhope	$1\frac{1}{2}$	33	
Beyond on L. a			
T. R. to Great			
Dean.			
LEA	$1\frac{1}{2}$	$34\frac{1}{2}$	Castle End, Archdeacon Probyn.

GLOUCESTER TO CHEPSTOW,

THROUGH NEWNHAM.

GLOUCESTER to			
Highnam	$2\frac{1}{4}$	$2\frac{1}{4}$	Highnam-park, Sir B. W. Guise, bart. R.
On R. a T. R.			
to Newent.			
— — —			High-grove, Mrs. Evans, R.
Minsterworth ..	2	$4\frac{1}{4}$	
Westbury	$4\frac{1}{2}$	$8\frac{3}{4}$	M. Colchester, esq.
On R. a T. R.			
to Great Dean.			
NEWNHAM	$3\frac{1}{2}$	$12\frac{1}{4}$	Inn:—Bear.
On R. a T. R.			A mile beyond on R. Hay- Hill, T. H. King, esq.
to Great Dean.			
Blakeney	3	$15\frac{1}{4}$	
Lydney	$3\frac{1}{2}$	$18\frac{3}{4}$	
Aylburton	$1\frac{3}{4}$	$20\frac{1}{2}$	Sydney-park, Rt. Hon. Chas. Bathurst, R.
Alvington	1	$21\frac{1}{2}$	
Woolaston	1	$22\frac{1}{2}$	
Stroute	$1\frac{1}{2}$	24	
Tiddenham	$1\frac{1}{2}$	$25\frac{1}{2}$	
Cross the river			
Wye to			

CHEPSTOW $1\frac{3}{4}$ | $27\frac{1}{4}$ | Inns: — *Beaufort Arms,*
George.

MALMSBURY TO OLD, OR AUST PASSAGE,
 THROUGH CHIPPING-SODBURY.

MALMSBURY to			
Foxley	$2\frac{1}{2}$	$2\frac{1}{2}$	<i>Foxley-house, Lord Holland.</i>
— — —			<i>L.; and on R. near Easton Gray, T. Smith, esq.</i>
			<i>Pinkney-house, E. Cresswell, esq. R.</i>
Lackington	$4\frac{1}{2}$	7	
Acton Turvill . .	$1\frac{3}{4}$	$8\frac{3}{4}$	<i>Badminton-park, Duke of Beaufort, R.</i>
On L. a T. R. to Chippenham.			
Cross-hands Inn	3	$11\frac{3}{4}$	<i>Doddington-park, Sir Chris. Bethell Codrington, bart. L.</i>
On R. a T. R. to Tetbury; on L. to Chippenham			
Old Sodbury . .	1	$12\frac{3}{4}$	
CHIPPING SOD-			
BURY	$2\frac{3}{4}$	$15\frac{1}{2}$	<i>Inns:—Bell, Swan.</i>
On R. a T. R. to Wickware.			
Yate	1	$16\frac{1}{2}$	
Nibley	1	$17\frac{1}{2}$	
On L. a T. R. to Bristol.			
Iron Acton	$1\frac{1}{4}$	$18\frac{3}{4}$	
On R. a T. R. to Wotton-under-Edge; on L. to Bristol.			
Alveston	4	$22\frac{3}{4}$	<i>Tockington, Sam. P. Peach, esq. L.; Edward Watkins, esq. R.</i>
On R. a T. R. to Gloucester; on L. to			
Rudgway	$\frac{3}{4}$	$23\frac{1}{2}$	

<i>Forcard to Bristol; turn short on the R. to</i>		
Olviston	2	25½
AUST-PASSAGE INN.	3	28½

EVESHAM TO STOW-ON-THE-WOLD.

EVESHAM, cross the Avon River		
Bengeworth	½	½ <i>E. Rudge, esq.</i>
Broadway	5½	6 <i>Spring-hill, Hon. John Coventry.</i>
<i>Enter Gloucestershire, cross Campden Down.</i>		
Stow-on-the-Wold	10	16 Inn:— <i>Unicorn.</i>

STOW-ON-THE-WOLD TO WINCHCOMBE.

STOW ON THE WOLD to Lower Swell		
Lower Guiting ..	5¾	6¾ <i>P. Snell, esq.</i>
Winchcombe ..	6¼	13 <i>Sudley-castle, Sir S. Brydges, bart. L.</i>

MORETON-IN-THE-MARSH TO CAMPDEN.

MORETON to		
Burton-on-the-hill	2	2
Campden	6	8 Inn:— <i>George.</i>

END OF THE ITINERARY.



THE QUARTER SESSIONS.

These are held at Gloucester, &c. The first week after Epiphany; the first week after the close of Easter; the first week after the translation of Thomas a Becket, or July 7; and the first week after Michaelmas-day.

A CORRECT LIST OF THE FAIRS IN GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

- Barton Regis*—Sept. 28, cloth, sheep, pigs, and cattle.
- Berkeley*—May 14, cattle and pigs.
- Blakeney*—April 23, May 12, cattle; Nov. 12, cattle, sheep, horses, and fat hogs.
- Campden*—Ash-Wed. April 23, July 25, Aug. 5, Nov. 3, Dec. 10, horses, cows, sheep, linen, cloth, and stockings.
- Cirencester*—Easter Tues. July 13, Monday before and after old Mic. statute, cattle, sheep, and horses; Nov. 8, wool, oil, and leather.
- Cheltenham*—Second Thur. in Ap. Holy Thursday all sorts of cloth; August 5, lambs. Second Thurs. in Sept. Dec. 7 and 18, for all sorts of cattle and pedlary.
- Coleford*—June 20, wool; Nov. 24, cattle and cheese.
- Dursley*—May 6, Dec. 4, cattle and pedlars' ware.
- Fairford*—May 14, Nov. 12, sheep and cattle.
- Frampton*—February 14, April 30, small pedlary ware.
- Gloucester*—April 5, a great cheese fair; July 5, Sept. 28, November 28, cattle, pigs, horses, cheese.
- Hampton*—Trin. Monday, Oct. 29, cattle, pigs, horses, cheese.
- Iron Acton*—Ap. 25, Sept. 13, cattle, pigs, horses, cheese.
- Lechlade*—Aug. 5 and 21, cattle and toys; Sept. 9, cheese and cattle.

Leonard Stanley—July 20, cattle.

Lydney—May 4, Nov. 8, horned cattle.

Little Dean—Whit. Mon. Nov. 26, pedlars' ware.

Marshfield—May 24, horned cattle; Oct. 24, sheep, horses, cheese.

Great Dean—East. Mon. Oct. 10, cattle, sheep, and horses.

Moreton—April 5, Oct. 10, cattle.

Newnham—June 11, Oct. 18, horses and sheep.

Newent—Wed. before Easter, Wed. before Whit-Sunday, Aug. 1, 13; Friday after Sept. 18, cattle, horses, and cheese.

Northleach—Wed. before May 4, cows and sheep; last Wed. in May, cheese and cattle; April 23, cows and sheep; Wed. before Sept. 29, and Oct. 10.

Painswick—Whit-Tuesday, Sept. 19, cattle, sheep.

Sodbury—May 23, June 24, cattle, cheese, and pedlary.

Stone-house—May 1, Oct. 11, Nov. 10, Dec. 29, cattle and cheese.

Stow-on-the-Wold—May 12, July 24, horses, cows, and sheep; Oct. 24, hops, sadlery, &c.

Stroud—May 12, Aug. 21, cattle, sheep, and pigs.

Tetbury—Ash-Wed. Wed. before and after April 5, July 22, cattle, lambs, sheep, and horses.

Tewkesbury—Second Mon. in March, first Wed. in April, O. S. June 22, Sept. 4, Oct. 10, cattle, tanned leather, and pedlary.

Thornbury—East. Monday, Aug. 15, Monday before Dec. 21, cattle and pigs.

Tockington—May 9, Dec. 6, cattle and pedlary.

Waterleigh—Sept. 19, cattle and horses.

Wickware—April 5, July 2, oxen and horses.

Winchcombe—Last Sat. in March, May 16, July 28, cattle, sheep, horses.

Winterburn—June 29, October 18, cattle and sheep.

Wotton-under-Edge—Sept. 25, cattle and cheese.

BANKERS IN GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

Residence.	Firm.	On whom they draw in London.
Gloucester City } old Bank	James Wood	Lubbock and Co.
Gloucester	Turner and Co.	Esdaile and Co.
Gloucester	Wilton, Wash- bourn, and Co. }	Jones, Loyd, & Co.
Cirencester	Pitt and Co.	Marryat and Co.
Cheltenham	Turner and Co. Messrs. Fisher and Co.	Esdaile and Co.
Stroud	Fendell and Co. Grazebrook & Co.	Lubbock and Co.
Tewkesbury and Upton	Lechmere and Co.	Curtis and Co.
Tewkesbury	Hartland and Co.	Barclay and Co.

TITLES CONFERRED BY THE COUNTY.

THE city of Gloucester gives the title of Duke to His Royal Highness William Frederick, nephew to His late Majesty:—Cirencester, that of Baron to the Bentinck family; the same family are Earls of Berkeley:—Fairford gives the title of Viscount to the Hill family:—Dursley the same to the Berkeleys:—Avalon, the same to the Mordaunts:—Clarendon, Earl to the Villiers:—Hardwicke, Earl and Baron to the Yorkes:—Hawkesbury, Baron to the Jenkinsons—Tortworth to the Mortons—Sherborne to the Duttons—Stanley to the Murrays—Huntly to the Gordons; and St. Leonards the same to the Townshends.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF GLOUCESTERSHIRE.



NAME, AND ANCIENT HISTORY.

THE county derives its name from its principal city Gloucester, and previous to the arrival of the Romans, the inhabitants were called *Dobuni*, and the place, *Caer Gloew*. Camden thinks they were so named from the British word *Dwfn*, because for the most part they occupied places that lay low, and sunk under hills. Of these *Dobuni*, or as Dio calls them, *Boduni*, we have very little account in ancient history, except what Dio relates of them, viz. that A. Plautius, sent by Claudius into Britain, received the submission of the greatest part of the people, who had before been subject to the *Catuellani*, who occupied the neighbouring country.

When the Saxons became masters of Britain, the *Dobuni* were lost, and part of this people, with their neighbours, had the name of *Wicei* given them, and their territory formed a part of the kingdom of Mercia, and was called by the Saxons *Gleaucestershire*.

ROMAN ROADS.

The Ikenild Street, the Erming Street, the Fosse Way, and the Via Julia, are the principal Roman roads passing through this county. The Ikenild, after crossing Oxford, enters Gloucestershire at East Leach, and joins the Fosse about a mile north-east of Cirencester. The Erming Street leads from Caerleon in Monmouthshire, and passing through Gloucestershire and Cirencester, pursues its course to Cricklade, and from thence to Southampton. The Fosse Way enters the county from Warwickshire, at Leamington, passes through Morton, Henmarsh, and Stow, by Bourton-on-the-Water, and Northleach, and crossing the river Coln at Fosse Bridge, leads

directly to Cirencester. The Via Julia led from Bath, across the Severn, into Monmouthshire, and is to be traced by Weston-lane to the present horse-road to North Stoke. Then, ascending the hill, it passes under the British post, or North Stoke Brow, and enters the village of North Stoke. It soon after reaches Bitton, and from thence continues with the present turnpike-road as far as St. George's Church. From thence, after passing Redland-court, it ascends Durdham Downs, and crosses the turnpike from Shirehampton at the very spot where it is joined by the road from the Hot Wells. It at length enters "the great station of *Sea Miles*, or Abone. From Abone, paved remains of the road still exist, where it passes a farm-house of Lord de Clifford's; it then runs through some enclosures, enters the Shirehampton road near the end of Lord de Clifford's grounds, and continuing between King's Weston Inn and the mansion-house, descends between that and the stables, and passes straight by Madan farm, till it joins the banks of the Severn. Here was a ford into Wales; and part of the road on the opposite side of the river to Caerwent existed, still paved, a few years ago."

BOUNDARIES, SITUATION, AND EXTENT.

Gloucestershire is bounded on the north-east by Worcestershire and Warwickshire; on the east by Oxfordshire; on the south-east by part of Berkshire and Wiltshire; on the south and south-west by Somersetshire and the Bristol Channel, and on the west and north-west by the counties of Monmouth and Hereford. The greatest length of the county, in a north-east direction, from Bristol to the extreme part of Clifford-chambers, near Stratford-upon-Avon, is about fifty-four miles in a straight line; and by the nearest turnpike-road, nearly seventy. In the widest part, from Down Ampney on the east to Preston, in the Forest district, on the west at right angles with the former line, it is more than thirty-three miles.

CLIMATE AND SOIL.

The unsheltered state of the Cotswolds exposes

them to the full effects of bleak winds. In the dens and small vallies, a milder air is felt; though the cultivation of the higher lands has evidently produced a hardier race of men. In the Vale, the air is comparatively mild in very severe weather: the snow lies in considerable depth upon the hills here, when the lower grounds exhibit no appearance of the kind.

The climate of the Forest is usually considered as equally temperate with the Vale. The high and exposed parts are so much sheltered by thick woods, that neither northerly or easterly winds can affect them to any great degree. At Churcham, and in the Ryelands, the harvest is generally a fortnight earlier than in any part of the Vale, except perhaps the higher parts of the Vale of Avon. The soil and mode of cultivation is different in the different districts. Upon the Cotswold Hills, which extend in length from Broadway-hill to near Tetbury, thirty miles, and in breadth from Birdlip-hill to Benford, about seventy miles, including an area of nearly 200,000 acres, the greater part of the soil is what is here termed stone-brash, a loam intermixed with stones, on a subsoil of calcareous rubble or rock: the average depth of ploughing not much exceeding four inches: there is however, some quantity of stiff sour land interspersed on those hills; many farms and one or two parishes are chiefly of that nature. Near Fairford and Cirencester the soil is richer and deeper; particularly about the former a deep and sandy loam prevails, producing great crops in a favourable time, but apt to burn and parch up in dry seasons; at which times they likewise labour under much inconvenience for want of water, with which the greater part of these hills is abundantly supplied.

RIVERS.

The principal are the *Severn*, the *Isis*, or *Thames*, *Upper Avon*, and *Lower Avon*. The *Severn* has its source in Plinlimmon-hill, Montgomeryshire, there called *Haffren*, as it flows towards Llanidloes. At Newtown it takes the name of *Severn*, and conti-

nues a northerly course to Landrino, at which place it turns to the east, and proceeds to Shrewsbury, which it flows nearly round, and then descends in a south-east direction to Colebrook Dale, and afterwards more southerly to Bridgenorth, Bewdley, Worcester, Tewkesbury and Gloucester. Here is the last bridge over it, and the width begins to increase considerably as it passes Framilode, Newnham and Thornbury, soon after which it takes the name of the *Bristol Channel*, and forms a grand estuary not less than ten miles wide, and still increasing until it is incorporated with the Atlantic Ocean. This course is nearly 300 miles, and in this great extent it is increased by the following tributary streams.

The *Upper Avon*, the highest in the county, falls into it at Tewkesbury.

The *Chelt*, which rises at Dowdeswell, and runs by Cheltenham, empties itself near Wainlode-hill.

The *Leden*, which rising some miles above Ledbury in Herefordshire, enters Gloucestershire at Preston, and falls into the western channel of the Severn below Overs-bridge.

The *Upper Frome* rises at Brimpsfield, in Raps-gate hundred, passes Stroud, where it is called the Stroud river, intersects the turnpike-road leading from Gloucester to Bristol, near the eight-mile stone, and joins the Severn at Framilode Passage.

Another stream called *Avon*, which rises at Avening, and is joined by a rivulet from Horsley at Nailsworth, falls into the Frome at Dudbridge, a mile below Stroud.

The *Ewelme* rises at Owlpen, passes Uley, and at Dursley is increased by the waters of Broadwell. At Cam, it gives the name of Cambridge to the hamlet a little below, and falls into the Severn at Frampton Pill.

The *Middle Avon* rises at two heads; one in Newington Bagpath, which passes through Lasborough-park to Boxwell; the other in Hawkesbury, which passes by Wickware, and both streams uniting below

Kingwood, in the county of Wilts, intersect the Bristol-road at Stone, and having washed the walls of Berkeley Castle, join the Severn about a mile below the town.

The *Lower Avon* rises among the hills of North Wiltshire, and passing by Chippenham, enters this county near Bath, where it is first navigable. At Bitton, in its course to Bristol, it receives the Boyd and other small streams.

A branch of the Avon rises in the parish of Tetbury, where becoming a rivulet, it forms the boundary between the counties of Gloucester and Wilts for about three miles; it then crosses the Akemanstreet, and below Malmesbury joins the other branch before mentioned.

At Bristol, the Lower Frome, rising in Dodingtonpark, and having received the Leden at Frampton Cotterel, forms part of the harbour, before it unites its waters with the Avon, which then flows on about five miles, and joins the Severn at Kingroad.

The tide, well known in the Severn for its boisterous and impetuous roar, comes up to Gloucester with great rapidity and violence, and turns the stream as high as Tewkesbury. The tide generally rises seven feet and a half at Gloucester. At Framilode Passage the saline impregnation of the water begins to be lost.

The produce of the Severn, is roach, dace, bleak, flounders, eels, elvers, chub, carp, trout and perch. These are properly salt-water fish, and the three last, though often found here, do not naturally belong to it, but come in with the tributary streams, or accidentally from ponds. Salmon, lampreys, lamperns, shad, soles, shrimps, cod, plaice, conger eel, porpoise and sturgeon, with some others belonging to the sea, are found within the limits of the county; though some of these are seldom caught higher than Berkeley Pill.

The *Upper Avon* rises on the borders of Leicestershire, enters Warwickshire at Colthrop; passes Rugby,

Warwick, and Stratford, where it becomes navigable. A little below, it receives the Stour; and having been a boundary to the county of Gloucester two or three miles, pursues its slow course to Evesham and Pershore, and after having flowed about three miles in this county, unites its waters with the Severn at Tewkesbury.

The produce of this river is roach, dace, bleak, carp, bream and eels. It is remarkable, that the bream never leaves the quiet waters of the Avon for the more rapid stream of the Severn; nor does the salmon at the conflux of the two rivers, ever leave the Severn for the Avon.

The Isis, or Thames, is generally reputed to rise at a spring called *Thames Head*, in the parish of Cotes, in this county: near Cricklade in Wiltshire, it receives the Churn, (a small river rising at the Seven Springs in Cubberly, and passes by Cirencester) enters Gloucestershire again at Kempsford, continues the southern boundary of it to Lechlade, and there entering Oxfordshire, pursues its course to the metropolis.

The *Winrush*, though not navigable, is famous for its trout and cray-fish: this river rises at Upper Guiting, and passes through Bourton-on-the-Water, to Barrington, where it leaves this county, and flowing by Burford, falls into the Thames at Newbridge in the county of Oxford. In its course it receives several small streams, as the Coln, rising at Sevenhampton, the Lech, near Sherborne Lodge, and the Dickler, commencing at Springhill, a seat of Lord Coventry, in the county of Worcester. All the last mentioned streams abound with trout.

CANALS AND PONDS.

The Canals which pass through Gloucestershire are distinguished by the names of the Thames and Severn, the Stroudwater, the Gloucester and Berkeley, and the Hereford and Gloucester.

The junction of the Thames and the Severn begins at Walbridge, near Stroud (at the place where the Stroud navigation ends) and proceeds to very near

Lechlade, where it joins the river Thames, which, including the branch to Cirencester, is a distance of thirty miles, seven and a half chains.—The general breadth of the canal is forty-two feet at the top, and thirty feet at the bottom. In many places, where the ground is a dead level, it is considerably wider; the banks and towing paths being made entirely with the soil dug from the canal. The tunnel at Sapperton is nearly two miles and a half in length, being lined with masonry, and arched over at top, with an inverted arch at the bottom, except at some few places, where the solid rock being scooped out, rendered it unnecessary; the expence of this was about eight guineas per cubic yard. The boats are twelve feet wide, and eighty feet long; when loaded, they draw four feet water; and will carry seventy tons.—The union of the Thames and Severn by this canal, opens a communication between the Capital and the ports of Wales, Bristol, and the manufacturing towns in Gloucestershire, Worcestershire, Warwickshire, and with the internal parts of the kingdom by means of the Oxford and Coventry canals.

The Stroud Water Canal commences its course at “Badbrook, at the edge of the town of Stroud, passes on to Cain’s Cross by Ebley, and across the main road at Stone Cross, and by Stone House near Rycott Mill, and to Lockham Bridge; then across the river near Whitminster Mill, and goes into the Severn at Framilode; its length being something more than eight miles, and its fall one hundred and two feet.”

The Gloucester and Berkeley Canal joins the Severn at Shrapness Point, near the town of Berkeley; from whence, in a straight course, it passes Slimbridge, Frampton, Wheatenhurst (where it intersects the Stroud Canal), Hardwick, Quedgeley, and terminates on the south side of the city of Gloucester, making a line of eighteen miles and a quarter. This great work, formed upon a scale to admit vessels of 400 tons burthen, with their full cargoes, being brought up to Gloucester, although many years in projection, is not

yet completed, owing to the immense sum required for that purpose. It is finished, however, and open into the Stroud Water Canal; and a great deal of the cutting is done along the whole line. The most expensive part of the work is the massive pile of building necessary at the entrance into the Severn at Shrapness Point: but even a considerable portion of this has been accomplished; and, from the progress of the whole, hopes are still entertained of this important undertaking being brought to a close.

The Hereford and Gloucester Canal commences from the Severn near Gloucester Bridge, and pursues its course over Alney Island, over a branch of the Severn to Vineyard Hill, where it crosses the river Leden, by an aqueduct, and running at the base of Lassington-hill, passes on to Rudford, and enters a tunnel at Oxenhall, 2170 yards long. It emerges at Boyce, and again crossing the Leden, it soon afterwards enters Herefordshire, and is carried on to Ledbury, (only one half the distance originally intended), without the smallest prospect of its being carried further; the work having been at a stand many years. That portion which is completed, is navigable for small canal-boats during a part of the year; but it is in some places nearly dry in the summer season.

On the stone-brash soils of the Cotswolds, ponds are made, either square or circular, and generally so situated, as to supply four fields with water. The depth, when fourteen yards over, is five feet; when twenty, eight.

In the Vale, little pains are taken in the formation of drinking pools. In a part of the field most convenient on account of its easy communication with a rill or running stream, an oblong square excavation is made, shallow at the entrance, and sloping down to the depth of six or seven feet. The size is determined by the quantity of water supposed to be wanted, and the probability of replenishing it. The entrance is guarded for seven or eight feet with stone pitching, and the sides are usually raised with the soil thrown

out. As springs seldom occur in these clays, serious inconveniences are sometimes experienced from a long continuance of dry weather in the summer season; it is therefore an object of great attention to make the pools large at first, and to keep them well cleansed afterwards.

The salmon, which has ever been reckoned the pride of the Severn, in former times caught in great abundance, has of late years become comparatively a scarce fish. The price in high season, is often three shillings a pound, and seldom lower than eighteen pence.

The proprietors of the Berkeley Canal lately announced their intentions of finishing the work as far as the Stroud canal; by which a direct communication will be opened with the metropolis, and other districts. And this being once completed, there can be little doubt of the commencement of the extended line to the river Severn.

RENT, AND SIZE OF FARMS.

Rents in Gloucestershire have been universally paid in money, and in point of value, vary with the nature of the soil, situation, convenience, and other circumstances. Near cities and other market-towns, detached parcels of pasture-ground have been rented from 5*l.* to 8*l.* per acre, and arable from 2*l.* to 3*l.* The average rents have been as follow: on the Cotswolds 15*s.* to 25*s.* per acre; in the Vale 20*s.* to 30*s.*; in the Forest district 20 to 25*s.* Farms differ much in extent and annual value; few have exceeded 1000*l.* per annum, or less than 50*l.*; but the average has been from 150 to 300*l.* A single farmer has occupied 3, 4, or 500 acres, but seldom under the same landlord, or even in the same parish.

ENCLOSURES.

These have been found so advantageous, that in the late reign of George III. upwards of seventy acts were passed, for enclosing and laying divers commons, &c. into severalty. Hence on the Cotswolds many thousands of acres brought into cultivation,

were before productive of little more than furze and a few scanty blades of grass. New enclosures are fenced round with a double range of post and rail; adjoining, but within the outside range, a ditch is made, and the soil thrown on the interior bank, on which are planted, quicksets of white-thorn, in a single or a double row.

Wall fencing is strong; but applicable only to the Cotswolds, and a few places in the Vale. Fences for farm-yards, where stone for brick and walls are scarce and expensive, are made with sawed oak-posts and elm rails; in other places stone walls are erected. The five-bar gate is in general use through the county. On the Cotswolds these are little better than strong hurdles made of split ash or willow, with little workmanship or skill.

WASTES.

About 10,000 acres lately remained in a state of waste in this county, a small part of which was in sheep-downs on the Cotswolds. Some waste lands employed as warrens for rabbits, are not thought capable of being converted to tillage with any great prospect of advantage; but several thousand acres of the Forest of Dean, have been granted away by different sovereigns, and disafforested, and the mining business here has decreased considerably within a few years past.

COTTAGES.

Though these are equally necessary with mansions and farm-houses, the popular complaint about their dilapidation has been but too well-founded, in the Vale as in other parts of the county. Landlords have generally deemed building cottages an unprofitable way of spending money; and overseers not being often aware of the power the law gives them, of erecting cottages on the wastes, it follows that more families are crowded together, than is either consistent with comfort, health, or decency. A remedy worse than the disease is often applied, by building a work-house, into which every person wanting relief is

crammed, without distinction of age, sex, or cause of distress.

Mr. Rudge recommends an acre of land to form the garden to each cottage, with a pig to the occupier; the aspect south, with a spring conveniently situated. The cottages to be let under prime cost. On the enclosure of Eastington, in the parish of Northleach, Lord Sherborne had 20 cottages erected, with a rood of land to each for a garden, at the yearly rent of thirty shillings.

CATTLE.

Notwithstanding the introduction of several varieties, yet in some old dairies, the Gloucestershire cows are much valued. This breed differs little in general appearances from the Glamorganshire, except in colour. In the higher Vale, the long-horned cows are mostly esteemed; such as have been chiefly bred from the improved stock of Bakewell and Fowler.—On the Cotswolds the same breed has been encouraged by the principal owners. The Devonshire also has its admirers. Some of the Suffolk duns are to be found upon a few estates.—The principal breed of sheep, is the Cotswold, the pure breed of which, however, is become scarce, in consequence of the introduction of the New Leicester, and those of the South Downs.—Gloucestershire is not distinguished by any particular breed of horses, though the natives are strong and boney.—The true Gloucestershire breed of hogs grow to a great size; they are the tall long white kind. The Berkshire breed has been introduced with much success. The swine-market at Gloucester has been looked upon as the largest in the kingdom.

IMPLEMENTS.

Waggon used in husbandry are chiefly with narrow wheels drawn by four or five horses, and carrying from two to three tons. They are either full bedded, or with three-quarter beds; the latter, though diminished in size, has the convenience of locking the fore wheels, and turning in almost as narrow a compass as a chaise. For carrying hay or straw, their length and

width are increased by light "ladders" before and behind, and a similar contrivance of *rathes* the whole length of the sides; the latter are generally fixed.

There is nothing particular in the form of the carts, except the occasional addition of ladders and *rathes*. In the lower part of the Vale, these carts are called "dung pots," and wains in the Forest districts, when drawn by oxen.

The dray is useful on pasture grounds, for carrying thorns, &c. and is so contrived, as to slide over the pasture lands, without injuring or making any material indenting in the turf.—The ploughs in this county are of various kinds; and drilling machines of different descriptions are used, but not so much in the Vale as in other parts.

The ell-rake, used in the Cotswolds, has some advantages over that of the common form. It carries from 18 to 26 teeth; full twenty inches long, sharpened at the points. This instrument is dragged by women and children after them, by a long handle with little difficulty, and takes a sweep of more than four feet. The thistle-drawer is a very useful instrument for the extirpation of the *serratula arvensis*. The cradle scythe is used in the Vale for cutting beans. Threshing-machines have hitherto been found in few places, on account of their expence, which is too great for middling farmers. The old wooden rollers were in common use till those of cast-iron were introduced. Radway's chaff-cutter with two knives, is a powerful machine. Three women are employed, one to keep it in motion, and two others to feed it. Working by turns at the different branches, they are able to cut chaff sufficient for eighty oxen a day.

TITHES.

Within the last century, more than ninety acts of parliament have been passed for the enclosure of waste and common lands, by which a considerable part has been exonerated from tithes, besides demesne lands, glebe, and others which have been discharged by private agreement between the impropiator and the

land-owner, or under the act for the redemption of the land-tax.

In this county instances of tithe taken in kind are not numerous, at least among the clergy; and compositions are moderate. The demand seldom exceeds 6 or 7s. per acre for the produce of arable land, or half a crown in the pound, on the rack-rent of pasture and meadow. Where, however, the tithes are taken in kind, a different conduct often prevails.

LEASES AND TENURES.

The greater part of the property in this county is freehold; some is copyhold, and about a fortieth part of the whole is held under corporations, ecclesiastical or temporal. Estates under the see of Gloucester are leased out upon lives, and the usual method has been, to renew on the falling of a life at a year and a half improved annual value of the estate. Three lives in possession, and three in reversion, are upon copyholds. Under the Dean and Chapter, estates are held by leases of twenty-one years, renewable every seven, on a fine of one year and a half improved value. Under proprietors not corporate, the renewal of a single life is usually made at two years' annual value.

From the inconveniency attending some of the Michaelmas takings, and other ancient usages, it is still to be wished that a general rule could be adopted for the commencement and end of tenures, which would be highly advantageous both to landlords and tenants.

It is the practice of the county to let on leases, varied according to the will of the landlord. Since long leases of twenty-one years have been out of vogue, a three years' taking has not been uncommon; seven years most frequent, and fourteen most rare in the Vale at least, except under peculiar circumstances. In fact, the terms of leases are adapted to the agricultural arrangements of the respective parishes in which they are granted. The covenants are generally the same as in other counties.

On a general view of the county, there are few

acres that might not be made productive of corn, by draining and cultivation. The Forest of Dean alone, would supply more than 23,000 acres, which would add to the common stock 230,150 bushels of wheat, or other species of food equal to it. The use of this Forest to the Navy, is supposed to have operated against its enclosure.

MINERALS.

Iron ore in abundance is found in the Forest of Dean, but only a small quantity is raised. Coke made from the Forest coal answers the purpose for cast-iron, and that which is rolled into plates, for tinning. Coal abounds almost in every part of the Forest and its neighbourhood, and probably within a small distance of Gloucester. At present the nearest pits to that city, are at Newent and Pauntley, nine miles distant from it. In all the coal raised from these pits, there is much sulphur, which in burning, emits unpleasant if not unwholesome vapours, and from its known property of dissolving iron, makes a rapid waste in the bars of the grates where it is burnt. The coal brought from Shropshire or Staffordshire, is much superior to any produced in the county of Gloucester, and is perfectly discharged from noxious or disagreeable vapours. The Forest of Dean, Longhope, and adjoining places, furnish a good limestone of the compact kind, for building and agriculture. Blue claystone, found at different depths in beds in layers, is also useful for building, and convertible into lime for manure, &c. Freestone is to be had from the Cotswold quarries, and paving-stones are dug up from those of Frampton-Cotterel, Winterbourn, Iron Acton, &c. Stone tiles are raised on the Cotswolds, at Miserdine, Bisley, Beverstone, &c. Aust Cliff, in the parish of Henbury, has a fine bed of alabaster, or gypsum, used in stuccoing.

The furnaces employed in the "reduction of the ore, are between twenty and thirty feet high; they are built of a gritty stone found in the Forest, capable of enduring a fire intense enough to melt and

break down almost any other material. The shape is that of an inverted cone, about seven or eight feet in diameter at the top, to which the approach is by a natural or artificial bank. The process is begun by throwing into the furnace some lighted brushwood, then charcoal, with the ore and fluxing matters, which are usually calcareous and argillaceous stones, sometimes quartz and flints. These materials are thrown in alternately, and the whole covered with charcoal. The blast is made at a hole, about three inches diameter, towards the bottom, by two large bellows, nearly thirty feet long, which are driven by water, and work by alternate movements. At an orifice somewhat lower, the dross, which separates from the metal in fusion, is let out: quite at the bottom is an opening, occasionally closed with a plug, through which the metal is let upon a bed of sand, to the length of thirty feet, every twenty-four hours. A large groove is formed in the sand, which serves to convey the metal to several grooves on each side, smaller and shorter. In the former are cast the *sows*, and in the latter the *pigs* of iron; both which are carried to the finery and chafery. On the hearth of the *finery* is a large charcoal fire, excited by bellows somewhat smaller than those used at the furnaces. The ends of two or three pigs or sows are put into the finery together, where softening gradually, the metal is stirred and worked till it runs into one mass, or lump, which is called *half bloom*. This is taken out (while glowing with heat), it is first submitted to the strokes of sledges, and afterwards of a large weighty hammer, moved by a water-wheel. By these operations the iron is beaten into a thick, short, square form; it is then again put into the finery, and worked to the shape of a bar, with a square nob at each end. In the *chafery* it is reduced into bars of the required shape and size."

ROADS.

The badness of the roads, was for many years a great check to the farmer's industry in this county.

The grit or sandstone in the Cotswolds is so soft, that the frost alone will break it; and is at other times soon reduced to powder by the pressure of carriages. Good materials are also scarce in the greater part of the Vale; but the stone that will bear the most heavy pressure, is a hard compact limestone got from St. Vincent's rocks, at Clifton, and cannot be landed at Gloucester under 5s. a ton.

The roads about Berkeley, are mended with a species of iron-stone, but not equal to the former in durability. In the vicinity of Frampton-upon-Severn, the roads are much improved, by giving them a good surface coat of gravel on the fresh laid materials. Scraping is much used on the turnpike roads. In the Forest district, the roads are much improved in many places where a few years since they were all but impassable. Three new roads were made through the Forest by virtue of an act of the 36th of George III.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

In weights, the difference is trifling; but the inequality of measures is a kind of anomaly which produces great inconvenience. In Gloucester market the bushel varies from nine to ten gallons.

The bushel of the Forest district, and on the borders of Herefordshire, contains nearly ten gallons; on the Cotswolds about nine; in the Vale, nine and a half; in the lower Vale and at Cirencester, nine and a quart, of all kinds of grain, though malt is said to be universally measured to nine. In a large portion of the county, each farmer has his own measure, and his price fixed accordingly.

Below Gloucester, especially in the neighbourhood of Bristol, potatoes, green peas, and some other articles, are sold by the double peck; that is to say, a peck contains two common pecks, "struck," or measured level with the top. But at Gloucester, and higher up the Vale, by a peck is to be understood a common peck heaped up as long as the measure will hold.

Wool is weighed by the stone of $12\frac{1}{2}$ lb. or todd of

28½lb. generally through the county. Eighteen ounces of butter, with many dairy-women, still make a pound, though by many others reduced to sixteen. In the higher extremity of the Vale, as at Welford, butter is sold by the quart, which is supposed to contain three pounds.

LEARNED MEN AND LITERATURE.

Richard Coriensis, or Richard of Cirencester, was born in this place, in 1335: he wrote the history of Roman Britain. Robert of Gloucester, one of the oldest of our English poets, lived in the time of Henry III. he wrote a Chronicle of Britain in verse. Sir Matthew Hale, a pious and learned judge, was born at Aldersley in 1600, and died in 1675. Dr. Edward Jenner, who discovered the vaccine inoculation, was born at Berkeley; and Pope's celebrated Man of Ross, whose real name was John Kyrle, was born in Dymock parish, and died at Ross in Herefordshire, in 1724. John Taylor, the Water-Poet, who died in 1654, was born at Gloucester; as was also the eccentric preacher, the late Rev. George Whitfield, in the year 1714. The late Richard Graves, an ingenious divine and miscellaneous writer, author of the *Spiritual Quixote*, the *Invalid*, &c. was born at Micleton, in 1715, and died in 1804.

Here Mr. Raikes, the founder of the Sunday Schools, deserves particular notice. Mr. Robert Raikes was of a very respectable family, and was born at Gloucester in the year 1735. His father was of the same business as himself, a printer, and conducted for many years, with much approbation, the Gloucester Journal. The education Mr. Raikes received was liberal, and calculated for his future designation in life. At a proper season he was initiated into his father's business, which he has since conducted with punctuality, diligence, and care. When the declining state of printing, as now conducted in the metropolis, is considered, the productions of Mr. Raikes's press will do him no discredit. Several pieces, among which may be pointed out the works of the Dean of

Gloucester, are such as will suffer nothing by any comparison with the productions of modern typography.

The incidents of Mr. Raikes's life are very few, and those not enough distinguished from the rest of the world, to admit of a particular detail. It is sufficient to say, that in his business he has been prosperous, and that his attention has not been so wholly confined to it, but that he has found time to turn his thoughts to subjects connected with the great interests of mankind and the welfare of society. By his means some consolation has been afforded to sorrow and imprudence; some knowledge, and consequently happiness, to youth and inexperience. The first object which demanded his notice was the miserable state of the County Bridewell within the city of Gloucester, which being part of the county gaol, the persons committed by the magistrate out of sessions, for petty offences, associated through necessity with felons of the worst description, with little or no means of subsistence from labour; with little, if any allowance from the county; without either meat, drink, or clothing; dependent chiefly on the precarious charity of such as visited the prison, whether brought thither by business, curiosity, or compassion. To relieve these miserable and forlorn wretches, and to render their situation supportable at least, Mr. Raikes employed both his pen, his influence, and his property, to procure them the necessaries of life; and finding that ignorance was generally the principal cause of those enormities which brought them to become objects of his notice, he determined if possible, to procure them some moral and religious instruction. In this he succeeded, by means of bounties and encouragement given to such of the prisoners who were able to read; and these, by being directed to proper books, improved both themselves and their fellow-prisoners, and afforded great encouragement to persevere in the benevolent design. He then procured for them a supply of work, to preclude every excuse and temptation to idleness.

Successful in this effort, he formed a more extensive plan of usefulness to society, which promises to transmit his name to posterity with those honours which are due to the great benefactors of mankind. This was the institution of Sunday Schools, a plan which has been attended with the happiest effects. The thought was suggested by accident. "Some business," says Mr. Raikes, "leading me one morning into the suburbs of the city, where the lowest of the people (who are principally employed in the pin manufactory) chiefly reside, I was struck with concern on seeing a groupe of children, wretchedly ragged, at play in the street. An enquiry of a neighbour produced an account of the miserable state and deplorable profligacy of these infants, more especially on a Sunday, when left to their own direction." This information suggested an idea, "that it would be at least a harmless attempt, if it should be productive of no good, should some little plan be formed to check this deplorable profanation of the Sabbath." An agreement was soon after made with proper persons, to receive as many children on Sundays as should be sent, who were to be instructed in reading and in the church catechism, at a certain rate. The clergyman who was curate of the parish at the same time, undertook to superintend the Schools, and examine the progress made.

This happened about the year 1781, and the good consequences have evidently appeared in the reformation and orderly behaviour of those who before were in every respect the opposite of decency or regularity.

The following newspapers are printed in this county: Gloucester Journal, Gloucester Herald, Cheltenham Chronicle, &c.

AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES.

So much benefit has been derived from the Agricultural Society at Bath, near the borders of Gloucestershire, and so many gentlemen of the county have been members of it, that it has almost been considered as a Gloucestershire Society.

In the course of the year 1821, the measures adopted for the establishment of a new Agricultural Society, by which the Forest of Dean is to be materially benefited, were agreed upon, and put into a train for speedy execution.

THE GLOUCESTERSHIRE SOCIETY

was instituted in London, in 1767, for the purpose of apprenticing the children of the deserving poor of the county, who might otherwise be destitute of the means of acquiring a comfortable subsistence through life.

The object of this benevolent institution, was to call forth the liberal contributions of the natives of the county of Gloucester, towards an annual subscription of one guinea from each governor, and of twelve shillings from each member of the society. A subscription of ten or twenty guineas at once, constitutes a governor for life. The premiums, which were originally 10*l.* have been raised to 15*l.*—A collection is also made by the stewards at each anniversary.

CIVIL AND ECCLESIASTICAL DIVISIONS.

The principal of the former are four; called the Knifsgate, the Seven Hundreds, the Forest, and the Berkeley divisions; twenty-eight hundreds included in the above, one city, twenty-eight market-towns, and 320 parishes. The Ecclesiastical division is that of parishes just named. Gloucestershire, with the exception of the Chapelries of Icomb and Cow-honyborn, comprehends one archdeaconry and ten deaneries, lies in the province of Canterbury, and is a diocese of itself.

TOPOGRAPHICAL DESCRIPTION OF THE COUNTY OF GLOUCESTER.

Journey to Tewkesbury, through Gloucester.

As the natural division of Gloucestershire is frequently referred to in these journies, this division, it is to be observed, consists of Cotswold Vale and the Forest. The Cotswold district comprehends the whole tract of hill country from Chipping-Campden northward to Bath, and is often divided into the Upper and Lower Cotswold on the Hills. The Vale takes in the whole lowlands, from Stratford-upon-Avon to Bristol; it is usually divided into the Vales of Evesham, Gloucester, and Berkeley. But the Severn and the Avon are natural boundaries: the former comprehends all the low country between Tewkesbury and Bristol; and the latter the lowlands between the Upper Cotswolds and the Avon, from Tewkesbury to Stratford, wherever that river is a boundary to the county. The Forest district includes the parishes on the west side of the Severn, up to Gloucester, and afterwards on the west side of the river Leden, till it enters the county of Hereford.

The Vale of Gloucester in form, is somewhat semi-circular, the river Severn being the chord, and the surrounding hills the arch: the towns of Gloucester, Tewkesbury, and Cheltenham, forming a triangle within its area; it extends from north to south about fifteen miles, and from east to west about seven or eight; and includes an area of about 50,000 acres.

Between Bristol and Horfield is REDLAND, a pleasant village, containing several good houses; the principal one is called Redland-court, an elegant modern structure, built by Mr. Cossens, from the designs of

Mr. Strachan; the gardens belonging to it are very fine.

About a mile to the left of our road, at Filton-hay, is **PEN-PARK**, the seat of — Barnsley, Esq. near which is a remarkable cavern of very extraordinary depth. In our description of the country about Bristol, in the survey of Somersetshire, we particularly noticed Pen-Park Hole, and the unfortunate accident that happened on the 17th March, 1775, to the Rev. Mr. Newnham, who suddenly lost his life by falling into it.

Three miles from Filton is **ALMONDSBURY**, a small village situated at the foot of two remarkable limestone rocks, which terminate the line through which the river Boyd flows to the Avon. Lead and copper ore have been found in this parish, the former in great plenty. In this parish, round the brow of Knowle-hill, the traces of an ancient camp are discoverable, within the area of which stands the manor-house. The interior of Almondsbury church exhibits some interesting specimens of Norman architecture.

At Alveston there are the remains of another large camp, and a third at Titherington, a neighbouring village. Mr. Gough observes, that “Tacitus’ account of Ostarius’ building forts on the rivers Antona and Sabrina, is strongly illustrated by the camps so thick set in this neighbourhood, and many battles must have been fought between our ancestors and them.”

About three miles north from Rudgway is **THORNBURY**, an ancient borough and market-town, situated about two miles from the Severn, in the lower part of the Vale of Gloucester. It is governed by a mayor and twelve aldermen, but sends no members to parliament. This place was formerly endowed with many privileges, but at present is chiefly entitled to notice, on account of the remnant of an old castle, or rather palace, begun by the Duke of Buckingham, in 1511, in the reign of Henry VIII. but left unfinished upon his falling a victim to the enmity of Cardinal Wolsey. Great part of the outward wall is still standing, and

in high preservation. The whole exhibits great taste and judgment. The beautiful arched gateway, which is the principal entrance into the castle, remains entire; and is greatly admired for the excellence of its workmanship. Over the arch is the following inscription, extremely well cut in Saxon characters raised above the surface:

This gate was begun in the yere of our Lorde Gode
MCCCCXI the 2d yere of the reyne of Kyng
Henry the VIIIth. by me Edw. duc of Buckingha
erlle of Harforde Stafforde and Northampto.

Upon a label are these words:
DORENES NAVANTE.

One part is inhabited, and commands an extensive view of the Severn and South Wales.

The parish of Thornbury is twenty miles in circumference. The church is spacious and handsome; it is built in the form of a cathedral, with a lofty tower, ornamented with rich open worked battlements and eight pinnacles.

The clothing business formerly flourished here, but has long been lost; and the town has now very little trade.

OLDBURY, about two miles north-west from Thornbury, though erroneously supposed by Camden to be the *Trajectus* of the Itinerary, is evidently of remote origin. Here are two camps, one of them extensive and pretty entire; the other of less dimensions, and now the site of the church. The larger camp is about a quarter of a mile distant, of a square form, with a double foss and vallum. Many foundations of buildings have been dug up in an adjoining field, the surface of which is so uneven as to excite the idea of buried ruins. At Oldbury is a salmon fishery, very productive.

About eight miles from Thornbury, and three on the left of our road, is BERKELEY, pleasantly situated on a branch of the Severn, in the beautiful Vale of Berkeley. This is a very ancient corpo-

rate town, under the government of a mayor and twelve aldermen. The town chiefly consists of one street of mean buildings, and carries on a considerable trade in timber, coal, malt, and cheese. The weekly market is on Tuesday. The living of Berkeley is in the gift of Earl Berkeley; the parish is the largest in the county. A new bridge over the Severn, on the road leading to Ross, is lately erected, from the plan of Mr. Smirke.

A Religious House existed here in the reign of Edward the Confessor, and a traditional tale has long been current, that it was a nunnery, and that the frail sisters were dispossessed of their estates, with the manor, by the craft of Earl Godwin, who found means to introduce into this community a profligate young man, by whom the nuns were seduced, which conduct being reported to the king, the nunnery was dissolved, and its possessions granted to the earl.

Berkeley Castle appears to have been founded by Roger de Berkeley, soon after the Conquest. Its form approaches nearest to that of a circle; and the buildings are contained in a regular court, with a moat. The keep, the most ancient part, is flanked by three semi-circular towers, and a square one of later construction. Its walls are high and massive: the entrance into it is under an arched door, with ornamental sculpture in the Norman style. Here Edward II. was barbarously murdered by the order of his Queen and Mortimer, her infamous paramour, in September 1327. A small apartment called the dungeon-room, over the flight of steps leading into the keep, is shewn as the place where the cruel deed was committed. At that time all the light it received was from arrow slits. During the Civil Wars, Berkeley Castle was held for the King, but being besieged, surrendered to the Parliament after a siege of nine days.

The Church at Berkeley, dedicated to St. Mary, appears to be of the time of Henry the Second. Here is a curious monument to the memory of the second Lord Berkeley and Margaret his first wife. The

tower, erected about sixty years ago, stands at some distance from the church. In the church-yard is the whimsical and well-known epitaph written by Dean Swift to the memory of Dickey Pearce, the Earl of Suffolk's Fool.

Of the Vale of Berkeley it was observed by William of Malmsbury, as being "rich in corn, productive of fruits in some parts by the sole favour of nature, in others by the art of cultivation, enticing even the lazy to industry, by the prospect of a hundred-fold return. You may see the highways clothed with trees, bearing apples, not by the grafter's hand, but by the nature of the ground itself; for the earth of its own accord rears them up to fruit, and that excellent in flavour and appearance, many of which wither not under a year, nor before the new crops are produced to supply their place. Neither has any county in England more numerous or richer vineyards, or which yields grapes more abundantly, or of better flavour; as the wine is but little inferior to that of France in sweetness. The villages are very thick, the churches handsome, and the towns populous and many."

The Stroudwater hills partake both of the Cotswold and the Vale character. The southern extremity is the most various in soil and surface. The woodlands, chiefly beech, have much decreased.

At **SLYMERIDGE**, a small village on the left of our road, near Cambridge Inn, situated on the banks of the Severn, there was a family of the surname of Knight, distinguished for many generations by having five fingers and a thumb on each hand.

CAMBRIDGE is a small village, three miles north from Dursley, on the little river Cam, which runs into the Severn, remarkable for a battle fought between the Danes and Saxons, in the reign of Edward the elder, in which the former were defeated.

About a mile before we reach Gloucester, on the left of our road, is Hempstead Hill, anciently part of the great possessions of Milo, Earl of Hereford, who in 1136 gave it to the priory of Lanthony. It

now belongs to the Rev. Daniel Lysons. The church appears to have been erected in the early part of the fourteenth century. The interior was paved with painted bricks, and there are some remains of richly painted glass.

Between Hempstead and Gloucester is a large old mansion, the property of the Dowager Duchess of Norfolk.

MATSON-HOUSE was built some time during Elizabeth's reign, by Sir Ambrose Willoughby; during the siege of Gloucester it became the head quarters of Charles I. It was lately occupied by William Fendall, Esq.

CITY OF GLOUCESTER,

The capital of the county, is pleasantly situated in a fine vale, on the banks of the Severn. There is very little doubt of this having been the city of the ancient Britons, who called it *Caer Glow*, the *Fair City*; from the beauty of its situation. The British name *Caer*, was changed by the Romans into *Clevum*, or *Glevum*; to which the Saxons, afterwards, as was usual with them, adding *Cester*, which signifies a castle, or fortification, it was called *Gleaucester*, whence the present name is immediately derived. The Romans had a station here, to awe the *Silures*, and established a colony, called *Colonia Glevum*, which is noticed by Antoninus, in his *thirteenth Iter*. The Roman way, called *Erming Street*, extending from *St. David's*, in *Pembrokeshire*, to *Southampton*, the county town of *Hampshire*, passes through this city.

Numerous Roman antiquities, coins, &c. have been found both in the city and neighbourhood; at *King's Holm*, adjoining the city, on the north-east, particularly. Many of these antiquities have been described in the seventh and tenth volumes of the *Archæologia*: among them was a *statera*, or Roman steel-yard, supposed to have been the first ever discovered in Great Britain. It wanted nothing but the hook or chain which suspended the weight, to have been perfect.—

One side of the beam was divided into six parts, each of which was subdivided into twelve; the only number marked on this side was V.; the other side had the numbers V. X. XV. and XX. inscribed on it.

Leland in his Itinerary, gives the following description of this city:—

“ The towne of Gloucester is antient, well-builted of tymbber, and large, and strongly defended with walles, where it is not well fortified with the deepe streame of Severne water. The antient castle standeth south on the towne, by Severne left ripe. The beauty of the towne lieth in two crossing streets, as the gates of the towne lye, and at the place of the middle meeting, or quarters of these streets, is an aqueduct incastellated. There be suburbs without the east, north, and south gates; the bridge only, with the caasey, lieth at the west gate.

“ Osric, first under-king and lord of this countreye, and the Kinge of Northumberland, with the licence of Ethelred, King of March, first founded the monastery, A. D. 681. Osric put in nunnes, and maketh his sister Kineburge abbesse there. The noble women, Kineburge, Eilburge, and Eva, Queenes of Marche, only abbasses for the tyme of the nunnes, the which was eighty-four yeres. The nunnes were banished and driven away, by warres betwixt King Egbart and the King of Marches. Barnulph, King of Marches, bringeth in secular canons and clerkes, givinge possessions and liberties to them. King Canute, for ill livinge, expelleth them, and by the councell of Wolstan, Bishop of Worcester, bringeth in monkes. Eldred, Bishop of Worcester, translated to Yorke, taketh a great part of the landes of Gloucester Abbey to reedifie the Minster of York; which lands Thomas, Archbishop of York, restored. William the Conqueror gave the Abbey of Gloucester, decayed, to Serlo, his chaplain, who re-edified it. Abbot Hauley and Farley made our Lady's chapel, at the east end of the church, between 1472 and 1492. Abbot Horton made the north part of the crosse isle, 1351—1377: the

south part of the crosse isle, and much of the presbytery vault, was made by oblations at the tombe of King Edward II. Abbot Seabrook, 1450—1457, made a great part of the exceeding fair and square tower, in the midst of the church. This towre is a pharos to all parts about from the hills. Abbot Froucester, 1381—1412, made the cloyster a right goodly and sumptuous piece of worke. Abbot Morwent, 1420—1437, newly erected the very west end of the church and two arches of the body, one on each side, minding, if he had lived, to have made the whole body of the church of like work. He also made the stately and costly south porch. One Osbern Celerer of Gloucester, made of late a fayre new tower or gatehouse at the south-west part of the abbey cemiterye.”

After the Saxon heptarchy, Gloucester was a place of some note, and near it, on the Isle of Alney, Edmund, surnamed Ironsides, fought for the kingdom with Canute, who obtained the victory; Edmund retreating into this city. Edward the Confessor frequently resided and kept his court here. A little before the Conquest, Brecktric, a Saxon, was Lord of Gloucester; but refusing to marry Maud, afterwards wife of William I. she caused him to be imprisoned, and his estate seized by the crown. Afterwards it was given by Rufus to Robert Fitz-Haimon, Lord of Corbaille, in Normandy. Several of our kings resided occasionally at Gloucester. King John, in the first year of his reign, made it a borough-town; and Henry III. who was crowned here, made it a corporation. During the reign of this monarch it was besieged, and taken in four days by the barons. It was, however, soon retaken by his son, who pardoned the burgesses upon their paying one thousand marks. In the year 1212, Edward I. held a parliament here, in which some useful laws were made, now called the Statutes of Gloucester. Richard II. held a parliament here in the year 1378; and Richard III. in consequence of bearing the title of Duke of Gloucester, before he obtained the crown, added the two adjacent hundreds

of Dudston and Kings-Barton to it, gave it his sword and cap of maintenance, and made it a county of itself by the name of the County of the City of Gloucester; but after the Restoration, the hundreds were taken away by act of parliament, on account of the inhabitants shutting the gates of the city, in 1643, against Charles I. by whom it was then besieged. The city had then eleven parish churches, but six were demolished with the suburbs of the town, for its better defence. "By the burning of the suburbs," it was observed, "the city is a garment without skirts, which we were willing to part withall, lest our enemies should sit upon them."

The relief of the city was effected by the exertions of the Earl of Essex, who fought his way from London to Gloucester, with 10,000 men under his command, through a continued skirmish. The number of houses destroyed during the siege was 241, exclusive of other buildings; and the value in money was estimated at 26,000*l*.

At the Restoration the walls, which anciently surrounded the city, were completely demolished of their original strength; the only memorial remaining, is the west gate, which is embattled, and was erected in the reign of Henry VIII. It stands on the banks of the Severn, at the end of a stone bridge, of five arches, built during the reign of Henry II. Of the castle of Gloucester there are at present no remains, the whole being cleared away a few years ago, to make room for the county gaol.

Very considerable improvements in the appearance and buildings have also been made within the last sixty years. The streets are now well paved and lighted, and various edifices and projections, obstructing the free passage of carriages, have been removed. Formerly the houses were chiefly of timber, which at several periods occasioned the destruction of a large proportion of the city, by accidental fires: they are now principally of brick. From the intersection of the four principal streets, the buildings occupy an

easy descent each way, a circumstance which greatly contributes to health and cleanliness. It receives its supply of water from the springs at Matson, about two miles south. An aqueduct was carried thence to Gloucester more than four hundred years ago.

One of the first objects of a stranger's attention is the Cathedral of this ancient city. This magnificent structure combines many interesting specimens of Saxon, Norman, and English architecture, and particularly the latter. This church originally belonged to the Abbey, and was founded by Wolphere, first Christian king of Mercia, and Ethelred his brother and successor, between the years 680 and 682. After the death of the Abbess Eva, wife of King Ethelred, in 768, the dissensions among the Saxon states occasioned the destruction of the convent. In the year 821, Bernulph, King of Mercia, repaired the Abbey for the reception of secular priests; these, however, were ejected by Canute the Dane, in the year 1022, who introduced the monks of the order of St. Benedict. These were completely established here previous to the year 1058; about which time Aldred, Bishop of Worcester, destroyed the decayed old church, and built another near the walls of the town. This was destroyed by fire in 1088, and a new church was begun by Serlo, the third abbot, in June 1089, and completed the following year, when it was consecrated, and dedicated to St. Peter, by the Bishops of Worcester, Rochester and Bangor. Abbot Horton, in 1351, built the High Altar, the Presbytery, St. Paul's Aisle, and the Great Hall, in which a parliament was held in 1378, when the King and his Court were lodged at the Abbey. In 1381 Abbot Froucester completed the cloisters, begun by Horton. The west front of the church was rebuilt by Abbot Morwent, in 1421, who added the south porch. Abbot Seabrook began the building of the stately tower, and appointed Robert Tull, a monk, to take care of the finishing of it. This Abbot was afterwards conse-

crated Bishop of St. David's, which appears from these verses:

Hoc quod digestum specularis opusque politum,
Tullii hæc ex onere.

Seabrook, Abbate, jubente.

Thus translated by Bishop Gibson:

“ This fabric, which you see exact and neat,
Abbot charg'd the Monk to make complete.”

Abbot Hanley, in 1457, laid the foundation of the *Virgin Mary's Chapel*; but he dying in 1472, it was finished by his successor, William Feeley. Abbot Parker was the last abbot, in whose time the Abbey was resigned to King Henry VIII. by the prior, and not by the abbot. The possessions of the Abbey at this time amounted, according to Dugdale, to 1946*l.* 5*s.* 9*d.* Henry VIII., by letters patent, dated Sept. 3d, 1541, and afterwards by act of parliament, erected “ the city of Gloucester, the county of that city, and all the county of Gloucester, into a bishopric, with a dean and chapter, by the name of the Diocese of Gloucester, and ordained that such part of the then city and county of Bristol, as formerly was in the diocese of Worcester, should be, from thenceforward, in the diocese of Gloucester for ever.”

John Wakeman, Abbot of Tewkesbury, was the first Bishop of Gloucester.

The following are nearly the dimensions of the Cathedral: The Lady's Chapel extends in length 90 feet, in breadth 27, and in height 66. The choir is 141 feet in length, $37\frac{1}{2}$ in breadth, and 85 feet high. The great window at the end of the choir is 83 feet high. The body of the church, in length, is 171 feet nine inches, in breadth 35 feet, and in height 71 feet. The length of the whole is 444 feet eight inches. Each aisle in the great cloister (which contains four) is in length 147, in breadth 13, in height $16\frac{1}{2}$ feet. The church, on the outside in height is $85\frac{1}{2}$ feet. The

tower, to the battlements, is 198 feet high, and from the battlements to the pinnacles, 24 feet; from the bottom to the top of the tower is 280 feet. The porch is in length 21 feet, in breadth 18, and in height $25\frac{1}{2}$ feet.

The interior of the Cathedral is extremely grand. The roof is sustained by 28 pillars, extending in two rows, from the west end to the high altar. The pillars of the nave are of extraordinary circumference, and, in a late attempt to flute them, were found filled up with loose irregular stones. Those in the choir were the same, but lessened and sided with smaller ones, by Abbot Seabrook. The arch of entrance to the cloisters, from the north aisle, is very highly adorned by pillars, buttresses, niches, pinnacles, foliage, and pannels, and the uncommon ornament of twisted pinnacles under the arch.

Mr. Dallaway, in his *Anecdotes of the Arts*, observes, that "it is hardly possible to enter the choir, which includes every perfection to which the Gothic had attained during the fifteenth century, without feeling the influence of veneration."

The roof in the nave immediately engages the attention, and by its heavy simplicity, renders the highly-wrought ornaments of the choir more conspicuous and admirable. At the termination of the traces under the tower, is the approach to the choir, and above the great arch is a window between two vacant arches, richly sculptured. On the north and south sides are the arches which support the vaulting of the transepts. Both these are intersected at the springing by a flying arch with open spandrils, each spanning the space of the tower. The brackets are figures of angels, with escutcheons of the abbey, Edward II. and the munificent Abbot Seabrook, the founder. Upon the exact point of these intersecting arches is a pillar, forming an impost of the great vaulted roof, which is then divided into sharp lancet arcades, and has an air of incredible lightness. From this part there are five more arcades, divided by clus-

ters of semi-columns, which reach from the bar to the roof; and the ribs are infinitely intersected and variegated with the most elaborate trellis-work, composed of rosettes; which although they are so thickly studded, are not repeated in a single instance. Over the high altar are angels in full choir, with every instrument of music practised in the fifteenth century. On each side there are thirty-one stalls of rich tabernacle-work, carved in oak, little inferior, in point of execution, to the episcopal throne at Exeter, or those at Windsor, erected in the reign of Edward IV., and allowed to be some of the finest pieces of Gothic carving in England.

“The two further arcades dilate about a yard from the right line, instead of forming a section of a hexagon, and are connected with the great east window, which is embowed in a slight degree, and occupies the whole space of the end of the choir.”—We have already given the dimensions of this window, which is supposed to be larger than those of any other in England. “The arch has three chief divisions or mullions, terminating elliptically, the middle of which includes seven tiers of stained glass, now so extremely decayed and mutilated as to appear like the tissue of a carpet.”

The present altar-piece is of the Corinthian order, and injudiciously placed so as to hide the rich tracery of the original high altar, which can only be seen from the side galleries of the choir.

“The pavement before the altar is composed of painted bricks, representing the devices of Edward II. of the Clares, and of De Spencers, earls of Gloucester, and Abbot Seabrook; these are imagined to have been prepared for the kiln by the monks, who have displayed ingenuity, taste, and accuracy, in the scroles, rebuses and armorial bearings.”

“The passages and oratories by which the choir is surrounded, are all of Saxon, or at least of early Norman architecture. The choir is constructed within them; the side walls, and low circular pillars, have

been reduced, and the whole lined with facings of elegant pannels. These are placed within arcades of semi-nullions, resembling windows, which are open to the choir, from the galleries before-mentioned.—During the grand ceremonies of the church, the females of superior rank surveyed them from above.”—*Dallaway's Anecdotes, &c.*

The whispering gallery is very remarkable. It is seventy-five feet in length, and forms five sides of an octagon; but the reverberation of sounds was most probably the effect of mere accident. On the left side are the remains of an altar of rough stone, at which the abbot, and others, are supposed to have stood to witness the celebration of mass within the Chapel of Our Lady; and on the centre of the wall of the passage the following lines are inscribed :

Doubt not but God, who sits on high,
Thy secret prayers can hear,
When a dead wall thus cunningly,
Conveys soft whispers to the ear.

In the gallery of the south transept is a curious ancient painting of the Last Judgment, discovered some years ago between the wainscoting in the nave of the church. It is supposed to have been originally an altar-piece, concealed at the time of the Reformation.

The interior of the Virgin Mary's chapel is extremely beautiful; but the effect is much diminished by the present altar-piece, which does not at all suit its situation. The east window is beautifully painted in the most brilliant colours, representing our Saviour surrounded by kings, bishops, and abbots. There are thirty-seven figures, all in different attitudes.

The entrance into the chapel is fronted by an elegant and highly-ornamented screen; behind which is an oratory or chapel, particularly interesting on account of the beauty of the architecture.

Among the more remarkable monuments in this cathedral, the tomb of Edward II. erected by his son and successor, near the altar, claims the first notice.

It is supposed to be the most ancient piece of sculpture in England, which exhibits such perfection of art. A figure of the monarch, regally robed and crowned, lies upon the tomb, under a modern canopy, consisting of three arches of two stories, interlaid with minute tabernacle work. Two angels support the head. In the right hand is a sceptre, the left supports a globe: on the side of the tomb there are three arched niches and four smaller ones, formerly containing statues; on the spandrils of the former are six shields. The multitude of religious votaries who flocked to offer at the tomb of the murdered king was so great, as hardly to be contained within the town; and the abbey register asserts, that if all the oblations had been expended on the church, a new one might have been built from the ground.

Between the north aisle and the choir is the monument erected by Abbot Parker, to the memory of King Osric, with the following inscription on the wall above:

“Osricus Rex, primus Fundatur hujus monasterii 681.”

In a chapel nearly opposite, is a figure carved in “Irish Oake,” and inclosed in a wire lattice, supposed to represent Robert Curthoise, Duke of Normandy, and eldest son of William the Conqueror.

In the south aisle is an ancient tomb, said to be that of Humphrey Bohun, Earl of Hereford, who died in 1367; and his lady. Mr. Gough, however, observes, that “it does not suit any earl of Hereford that we knew, unless we suppose it to have been removed thither at the Dissolution, from the adjoining monastery of Lanthony, where so many of that noble family were buried; and this, from the form and style of the arch and its niches, does not seem unlikely.”

Among the more modern monuments, one erected to the memory of Alderman Blackleach and his wife, dated 1630, is intitled to particular notice. The figures of the alderman and his lady, in white marble, lie on the tomb, and are accurate copies of the portraits of

Vandyck: they were certainly executed by a skilful artist.

There are many other memorials of the interment of prelates, abbots, and distinguished persons, ancient and modern, distributed through this edifice, highly deserving the notice of the curious visitor; but too unnumbered to be detailed in this work.

The great cloisters are exquisitely beautiful; and are in the style of the Chapel of King's College, Cambridge. The sides and roof are profusely embellished, and the windows are filled with mullions and tracery.

“On the north side of the cloisters are several neat lavatories, near the site of the refectory; which was the only part of the building belonging to the cathedral demolished by the republicans. These lavatories consist of eight arcades; and opposite to them is the sudatory, or place where the napkins were hung, consisting of two arcades. On the south side are twenty distinct places or seats, where it is said that the monks used to sit and write, before the invention of printing.”

A door through the east walk of the cloisters leads to the College Library, contained in a room formerly the abbey chapter-house, but appropriated to the present purpose by Sir Matthew Hale and others, in the reign of Queen Mary. The late worthy Dean Tucker very much improved the collection of books, by a liberal bequest of many very valuable.

The city and suburbs of Gloucester formerly contained eleven parochial churches; but those only of St. Michael, St. Mary de Crypt, St. John's, and St. Aldate, are now standing; the remainder having been either destroyed at the siege in 1643, or since taken down. St. Michael's church consists of two aisles of unequal dimensions, with a square tower at the west end: previous to the Reformation here were three chantries. St. Mary de Crypt consists of a nave, side aisles, and transept, with a neat tower having pinnacles and other ornaments, rising from the inter-

section: the east end is also finished with pinnacles. Here lies Sir Thomas Bell, who died in 1566, after having founded and endowed a neighbouring alms-house for six poor persons. Near this church are the remains of a monastery of Black Friars, founded about 1239 by Henry the Third, and Stephen, Lord of Harneshull. A considerable part of the Friars' church was converted into tenements, which were lately standing. The remains of a priory of Grey Friars are within this parish: it was founded by one of the Lords of Berkeley; the walls of their church are still entire. Judge Powell, who died in 1713, resided in a mansion fitted up from the remains of this priory.

On the west side of the church-yard is Crypt Grammar-School, founded and endowed by Dame Joan Cook, in pursuance of her husband's will in the reign of Henry VIII. It is now under the superintendence of a master and usher, and every four years a scholar is sent from this school to Pembroke College, Oxford, there to be maintained eight years on the foundation of George Townsend, Esq. One of our Archbishops was a scholar and exhibitioner from this school. St. Nicholas's church is an ancient structure on the north side of Westgate-street, and consists of a nave and aisles.

St. Mary de Lode church, stands near the west gate of the College, in the centre of a square area. This ancient structure has been repaired without regard to the prevailing style, which is Saxon; and the western entrance is through a semi-circular arched door, with three mouldings. In the north wall of the chancel is the ancient tomb and effigies assigned by tradition to King Lucius, but without sufficient warrant. St. John's is a modern building on the site of an ancient church ascribed to King Athelstan. In this parish, but about half a mile north of the city, is St. Margaret's Hospital, founded originally for lepers. Eight poor men and a reader are now partly maintained here, and the annual allowance to each is

about five guineas. Near this hospital is that of St. Mary Magdalen, or King James's, that monarch having had it rebuilt. The present establishment consists of nine women and ten men, each of whom have a weekly allowance of eighteen pence. St. Aldate's, or St. Eldads, now a chapel, is a neat modern fabric.

In the parish of St. Oswald, near the banks of the Severn, was also a Priory, and some remains of the buildings are yet standing. A house of *White Friars*, or Carmelites, founded in this parish in the reign of Henry III. had but three inmates at the time of the Dissolution.

Besides the churches for the established religion, there are numerous Places of Worship for Dissenters, Quakers, &c. with several public and charity schools. The College and Crypt Schools are in high repute. The Hospital of St. Bartholomew, founded in Queen Elizabeth's time for decayed men and women, is liberally endowed, and in 1786 was rebuilt in a handsome style by the corporation, who generously gave up their customary entertainments to defray the expence. On the site of this building stood an ancient priory, supposed to have been founded by William Myperty, a burgess of Gloucester. Contiguous to the city, is the County Infirmary, built and supported by voluntary subscriptions. It was opened in 1755, since which period more than 25,000 persons have received the benefits of this charity.

The House of Industry was established in the year 1703, under the management of twenty-four governors, who have full power to oblige the able to work, both by rewards and punishments. The chief employment is making pins. Those who execute more than the proportion of work allotted to them, have the surplus profits for their own use.

The Castle at Gloucester, of which the last remains were destroyed only a few years ago, to make room for the County Gaol, was probably erected about the period of the Norman invasion, as the Domesday Book mentions that sixteen houses were taken down

for its site. Camden mentions it in his time, as being for the most part decayed. The present gaol consists of three divisions, respectively called, the *Penitentiary House*, the *Bridewell*, and the *Sheriff's Prison*. It contains 203 separate cells, 164 for sleep, and thirty-nine for employment.

During the day, the prisoners are allowed, at stated hours, to enjoy the fresh air, in a court-yard, 210 feet in length, and fifty-seven broad, with a colonnade at each end, to shelter them in case of bad weather. "Their meals are supplied in a regular manner, and little indulgences are allowed in proportion to their industry. No spirituous liquors are permitted to be brought in, except when ordered by the surgeon by the way of medicine, nor even malt liquor with their food. Divine Service is performed every day, at which all (unless prevented by illness), are required to attend. In the chapel such arrangements are made as effectually prevent any improper communication between the prisoners. Each class is so completely divided from the other by partitions, and the males from the females, that neither the eye, the ear, nor the tongue can be employed to improper purposes. The late Sir George Onesiphorus Paul, Bart. (who closely followed in the footsteps of the benevolent Howard), originally suggested the plan of this prison, with a most laudable perseverance attended on it to the completion, and continued to superintend its internal management with undiminished assiduity, till within a very few years of his death, in 1820. Strangers are admitted and conducted through the several parts of the prison, under an order from a magistrate."

This building was opened in 1791. About the same time four Houses of Correction were erected in different parts of the county. The great end of this and similar prisons, is to produce the *reformation* of the offender; and the regulations that have been adopted for that purpose, are founded on the principles of prudence, lenity, and benevolence; and the

accuracy with which they have been pursued, can challenge the most jealous investigation. *Solitude* in dark cells, is the highest punishment inflicted on refractory prisoners; *in light cells*, the second degree. In either of these the prisoner is not allowed to have communication with any person, except the chaplain, surgeon, keeper, and inspecting magistrates. In the third and fourth degrees, confinement to the cell is part of the punishment; yet a certain time is allowed in the airing-ground, according to circumstances. Fetters not exceeding seven pounds weight, and handcuffs, are only used for contumacy, in cases of riot, or attempts to escape. The *penitentiary*, or *convicted* felons, are kept to hard labour, have their heads shaved, wear coarse or uniform apparel, with obvious marks or badges; and immediately on leaving work, are locked up in separate cells for the night. Every offender who behaves during confinement in an orderly manner, receives a certificate of the same, with a sum of money not exceeding three pounds; and as a further encouragement to good behaviour, if he continue one year in service after his discharge, and produces proof that he has done so, the justices are empowered to allow him a further sum equal to that on his dismission.

The City Gaol, being a distinct jurisdiction from the county, is situate in Southgate-street. It is, comparatively, upon a limited scale; and has recently (in 1821), been enlarged, by the addition of a range of building at the back, for the purpose of obtaining a better classification of the prisoners, as well as the means of setting such of them to work as may be sentenced to hard labour. A convenient chapel has also been added for the performance of divine worship, by a chaplain regularly appointed by the magistrates.

The public business of the city used to be transacted in the *Tholsey*, a building erected about the latter end of the reign of George II. The Town-

Hall, called the Booth-Hall, where the assizes were held, was an ancient timber structure, rebuilt in 1606. It contains within it two ranges of timber pillars, apparently of the time of Queen Elizabeth: but the whole is now unoccupied for any public purposes; and indeed its use is rendered unnecessary by the building of a new Shire-Hall, conveniently situate near the old structure in Westgate-street, where it presents an elegant front ornamented with four massive columns of the Ionic Order, thirty-two feet high; in the centre of which is the great entrance for the public, 100 feet long, fifteen wide, and eighteen high. In the same proportions are the whole of this very extensive structure, planned and most commodiously appropriated to its various purposes by Mr. Smirke. It includes two very spacious Courts for the Assize and Sessions business of the county and city, each Court having a gallery capable of containing 400 persons, with all the necessary offices attached, for the grand-juries, counsel, clerk of the indictments, witnesses, &c. &c. There is besides, over the front entrance, a large hall, or music-room, where the Triennial Meetings and other numerous assemblages are held: it is eighty-seven feet long, fifty-four wide, and thirty-four high; at the upper end an orchestra is erected, and over it the royal arms are raised against the wall; opposite these, above the three doors of entrance, is a fine sculptured bas-relief, nearly forty feet long, representing the signing of Magna Charta by King John.

The revenues of the hospital of Bartholomew maintain fifty-six poor (twenty-six men and thirty women), with a minister, physician, and surgeon. The government and patronage of the establishment is vested in a committee of eight of the members of the corporation, chosen annually for that purpose, the late mayor succeeding to the office of president. The poor people, over whom a master is elected from their own number, have separate chambers, a small garden for

each, and an allowance of 5s. 6d. per week, which, with other aids, yields them a comfortable retreat during the infirmities of old age.

The hospitals of St. Margaret and St. Mary Magdalen, although situated beyond the precincts of the city, on the London road, are likewise under the management of the corporation. The former (the founder of which is unknown, and its date quoted as early as 1158), is an establishment for eight poor men, with a stipend of 3s. 6d. each per week. The latter owed its foundation to the Priory of Lanthony (adjoining the city on the south), which supplied it with bread; and it is now an asylum for ten poor men, and nine women, with the same weekly allowance of 3s. 6d. each. Each hospital has a chapel, where divine service is performed on Sunday, and at stated periods in the week, by a chaplain appointed for that purpose. "The received tradition is, that one or both of these hospitals were originally set apart for the use of leprous patients, which are said to have abounded in this city at that time, in consequence of salmon and other river fish being so easily procured, and consequently forming so considerable a part of diet, particularly among the lower classes of people."

Kineburgh's (or Kimbros') Hospital, founded by Sir Thomas Bell, in 1652, is situate in Southgate-street. It is under the same patronage as the others, and dedicated to the support of three poor men, and three women, who have comfortable lodging, and 1s. 6d. each per week. The buildings have recently (in 1821) been repaired, and rendered much more airy and healthful. A raised stone monument appeared on one side of the building, whereon was the effigy of a young lady with a coronet on her head; and the tradition is, that Maud Kimbros was drowned in an adjoining well, and that this was her tomb.

Sir Thomas Rich, Bart. of Sunning, Berks, a native of this city, by his will, dated May 6, 1666, bequeathed to the mayor and corporation his house in Eastgate-street, and 6000*l.* in money, in trust, to found

a Blue-coat Hospital, for the maintenance and education of twenty poor boys, sons of freemen. They are admitted at eleven years of age, remain three years in the house, and are then apprenticed, with a premium of 10*l.* each. Their course of education consists of English reading, writing, and arithmetic; and their dress is similar to that of the boys of Christ-Church Hospital, London. Ten poor men and ten women are likewise supplied from the same foundation with blue gowns and other garments; and any surplus which may arise from the funds, is directed to be applied in sums of 10*l.* each to young freemen who have lately commenced business in the city, and in sums of 5*l.* each to maid-servants about to be married, who have lived creditably three years in one family, and failing them, to poor decayed house-keepers. The buildings being old and insecure, an elegant stone structure was erected in the year 1807, on the same site, and forms a handsome ornament to that part of the city.

Gloucester has sent representatives to parliament from the 23rd of Edward I.; the right of election is in the inhabitants and freemen, and the number of voters about 2000.

There is a Custom-house at Gloucester, where, though few foreign entries are made, considerable business is done in entering coasters. The present officers of the customs are a collector, comptroller, and surveyor.

According to the returns under the population act, in 1821, the number of inhabitants of the city and suburbs of Gloucester amounted to 11,407.

The municipal government of the city is, by a charter granted by Charles II. vested in a mayor, high steward, recorder, twelve aldermen (out of whom the mayor is annually chosen), a town clerk, two sheriffs, common council, treasurer, chamberlain, sword-bearer, and other inferior officers. According to Sir Robert Aitkyn's History of Gloucestershire, this city was incorporated by Henry III. when he was

crowned there. It was then governed by a mayor, aldermen, &c. But the inhabitants resigning their charter in 1672 to Charles II. he granted them another in the twenty-fourth year of his reign, by which the city and county of the city are governed.

The Westgate-bridge over the Severn at this city, built in the reign of Henry II. being in a dangerous state of decay, has been taken down, and replaced by an elegant modern bridge, of one arch of eighty-seven feet span. It is formed of stone from the Forest of Dean, faced with Cornish granite, upon a plan by Mr. Smirke, and executed under his superintendence.

The attractions of the city of Gloucester have been increased by a spring discovered in its environs in 1814, which surpasses the waters both of Cheltenham and Leamington, in the strength of its most essential impregnations. Since this well has been opened, many hundred individuals have daily experienced its virtues. On Monday the first of May, 1815, the new pump-room here was opened, which is very handsome; hot and cold, and vapour baths, have been prepared, and the supply of water has proved abundant. These wells are in the centre of some very beautiful grounds on the south-east of the town, adjoining the Bath and Bristol road. The surrounding scenery is remarkable for its richness and variety, and the walks, &c. are laid out with taste and judgment.

Besides the pump-room, hot and cold baths, a billiard-room has been completed some years, and is resorted to by inhabitants of the city, as well as strangers, for whose accommodation many elegant houses have been built. Delightful walks and rides have likewise been formed, hotels and lodging-houses opened, and such other conveniences provided as the comfort of visitors may require. It has been denominated GLOUCESTER SPA, being only ten minutes' walk from the centre of the city, and has already attracted much company, from its peculiarly pleasant and very convenient situation, and the acknowledged

efficacy of the waters. The abundance of the springs enables the renter to supply the baths with the saline water; and to the invalid whose case requires such aid, coupled with quiet retirement and healthful air, few places perhaps yield a stronger claim to preference in the choice of a temporary residence.

Most of the Gloucester trade results from the navigation of the Severn, from the hemp and flax-dressing business, and from the pin manufacture, which, on the decline of the cloth trade about the year 1626, was introduced here by John Tilsby. This diminutive and useful article, passes through the hands of twenty-five persons from the state of rough wire till it assumes the form of a perfect pin. Fifteen hundred persons have been employed at different manufactories upon this article, and pins to the amount of 20,000*l.* have been annually sent to the metropolis; but some years since the greatest demand was from Spain and America.

The clothing trade, from which the inhabitants once derived their chief support, has been so completely lost, that several years ago only one fulling-mill remained. Before the art of making pins of brass-wire was introduced into England in 1543, they appear to have been made of ivory, bone, box, and other hard woods. The pin manufactory belonging to Messrs. Weaver and Jefferiss, in King-street, was visited in the year 1788 by their late Majesties and three of the Princesses.

The markets at Gloucester had been long established by prescriptive right; but the present markets were chartered by Henry the Third. They are plentifully supplied with all kinds of meat, vegetables, and corn. The market-house in Eastgate-street was built in 1786, and has a handsome front; here corn is sold by sample, every Wednesday and Saturday, together with meat, poultry, and vegetables, fish and butter. The principal supply of fish is from London and Bristol; but the river Severn furnishes

salmon, chad, and lampreys. The market in Barton-street is chiefly for cheese, though many horses and cattle of all kinds are often purchased here.

The salmon is an article on which a Gloucester citizen may very justly pride himself: it is with the delicious *Severn crimped salmon*, that the tables of Gloucester vie with the feasts of London: in return for the dory or turbot, the Londoner, on his visit to Gloucester, is regaled with Severn salmon. An epicure might expatiate on the solidity of the flakes, the crispness of the flesh, the firmness and general fine flavour of the whole fish, assisted ever so little by the essences and sauces of Burgess, &c.

Cyder is a production which may be divided into three classes. The stout-bodied, rough, masculine cyder, made of Longney russet, Hagley crab, winter pippin, &c. The full-bodied pleasant rich cyder of the Harvey russet, woodcock, golden-pippin, winter quinning, &c. and a sort made of the Bodnam apple, fox whelp, and various species of kernel whelp, which, though placed last in order, is of a nature between the other two, as partaking of the properties of both. The styre made in the Vale, is not of that perfection as in the Forest of Dean: styre being peculiar to the Forest of Dean, yields a most extraordinary price.

Perry—The best liquor of this kind is that made of the Taunton squash pear, the Barland pear, and the mad pear. The Prince of Wales, grandfather to his late Majesty, when in Gloucestershire in 1750, gave this the name of *Champagne d'Angleterre*. Persons when hot, should never drink of it freely. It should be observed, that the styre apple-tree is not a plentiful bearer, and is particularly liable to accidents in keeping, so that its proving good is very precarious.

It has nevertheless been asserted, that Gloucestershire cyder is worth more in the maker's cellar than the finest wines in the world; hence the best old styre is mostly purchased by persons of fortune at fifteen guineas and upwards per hogshead.

The principal tradesmen are associated in twelve

companies; that of the Mercers, includes apothecaries, grocers, and chandlers; the Smiths and Hammer-men include ironmongers, cutlers, saddlers, and glaziers; to the Metal men, belong goldsmiths, braziers, pewterers, and pin-makers: the remainder are distinct, and consist of weavers, tanners, butchers, bakers, joiners, and coopers, shoemakers, tailors, barbers, and glovers.

The public amusements are similar to those of most other respectable cities; and recreation is sought in the attractions of a theatre, assembly-rooms, &c. A more local amusement connected with the purposes of benevolence, is the annual *Musical Festival* established by the members of the Choirs of Gloucester, Worcester, and Hereford, but aided latterly by the first performers in the kingdom. The profits are applied to the relief of the necessitous widows and orphans of clergymen. These meetings are held alternately in each of the above cities, and continue three days. The new Shire-Hall here is one of the best rooms in the kingdom for musical performances. It is neat and elegant, and lighted by three splendid chandeliers, holding eighty lights each. Its dimensions are 83 feet $9\frac{1}{2}$ inches long, 54 feet $9\frac{1}{2}$ feet wide, and 35 feet 8 inches high, and will contain 2,500 persons.

In the southern suburbs of Gloucester is LANTRONY, so called from a priory of Austin canons, founded in the year 1136, by Milo, Earl of Hereford, for the monks driven from an abbey of that name in Monmouthshire. Some of the *Bohuns*, his successors, were buried here.

After the Dissolution, the monastic buildings were converted into a farm. The only parts still remaining, are a large barn, the principal entrance or gateway, on which are the arms of the Bohuns, Earls of Hereford, and others.

On the north-west side of Gloucester, in the river Severn, is the Island of Alney, a small tract of land formed by the separation of the river into two channels. This is thought to have been the scene of a single combat between Edmund Ironside and Canute

the Dane, when, after a doubtful contest, it was agreed to divide England between them.

Churchdown Church, two miles north-east from Gloucester, is singularly situated on the summit of an eminence of an oval shape, rising from the Vale of Gloucester to the height of more than 800 yards.

Whitcombe-park, near Birdlip-hill, the seat of Sir William Hicks, Bart. has a grand and interesting view over the Vale of Gloucester, bounded by the Malvern Hills.

Excursion from Gloucester down the Wye.

The visitor who wishes to make this delightful tour, should sleep at Gloucester on the preceding evening; thence he may start in the morning, and prepare his mind for scenery that will realize all his expectations. The first stage is from Gloucester to Ross, sixteen miles. After passing the six mile stone, the road begins to take an abrupt devious direction: the ground rises to the right and left; small hills covered with fern shut out an extensive view, but present numberless choice objects of the picturesque: a lime-kiln, half concealed with rolling volumes of smoke, a moss covered cottage, a solemn groupe of oak trees, and the various accompaniments of shrubs and flowery plants on sloping, or abrupt declivities, give a spirited finish to a scene which Rysdael or Gainsborough might have painted.

At the eighth mile stone nothing can be more enchanting than the surrounding landscape. Near this spot Mr. Burden took one of his most favourite and romantic views for his picturesque work of "Scenery in Gloucestershire." The road from hence to Ross is hilly, and Ross is situated on the declivity of a gentle eminence, which commands a prospect over the river Wye to the mountains of Breconshire.

Ross church-yard is a spot well known to all tourists: here, when the sun is sinking in a western sky, and the whole horizon in a blaze with his departing glory, we may contemplate the distant moun-

tains of Monmouth, &c. Hence in the fore-ground, the Wye takes his devious translucent course towards the dark rocks that shelter him near Goodrich Castle. The Blorange, Skerid Vaur, and Sugar Loaf, rise pre-eminently in the purple distance, whilst the ruins of Wilton Castle, on the opposite bank, give a solemn grandeur to the whole. From Ross to Monmouth, down the Wye, is one of the pleasantest excursions that an Englishman can conceive. Comfortable large boats, which will hold twenty persons, may be procured at the Man of Ross. The first parts of the river from Ross are tame, the banks are low, and there is scarcely an object worth attention. The bank, however, soon begins to swell on the right, and is richly adorned with wood: this is a fit object of adoration, as are also the vivid images reflected from the water, which is continually disturbed and thrown into tremulous confusion by the dashing of the oars. The grand woody banks rise one above another, and appear and vanish by turns, as we double the several capes; and though no particular objects mark these different scenes, yet they afford great variety of beautiful perspective views as we wind round them.

After sailing four miles from Ross, we approach **GOODRICH CASTLE**: the view here is one of the grandest on the river. Hence we may gently glide amidst romantic scenery to the village of Whitchurch, on the right bank of the Wye, one of the prettiest in this part of the country. The hills called Great and Little Doward, are objects equal in beauty to any that the excursion presents between Ross and Monmouth. The next fine scenery is called the New Wear, or a chasm between two ranges of hills that rise almost perpendicularly from the water; the rocks on the sides are mostly heavy masses, and their colour is generally brown, but here and there a pale craggy shape starts up to a vast height above the rest, unconnected, broken, and bare. In the midst of all this gloom is an iron forge, and just below it, while the rapidity of the stream continues, a ferry is carried across it; and

lower down the fishermen use little round boats, called truckles, which the least unequal motion will overset. From the New Wear to Monmouth, the walk holds forth the most inviting temptation, and it is in fact a combination of such rich and varied scenery the whole way, that a transitory view from a boat can convey but a faint idea of its beauty. The course of the Wye to Rhaiadar, is also a romantic stage. Perhaps the most engaging scene in this stretch of country, is about a mile from this town, at the confluence of the Clarwen with the Wye. Mr. Warner observes, "We had not proceeded more than a mile on the left, before the scenery of the Wye became too interesting to be passed with transient observation; we therefore threw ourselves upon its eastern bank under the shade of a friendly aspen-tree, to contemplate its beauties at leisure."

About three miles before we reach Tewkesbury, on the left of our road, is DEERHURST, thus described by Leland: "Deirhurst, in Gloucestershire, standeth as Severn River cometh down *in læva ripa*, a mile below Theokesbyri. The site of the town, as it now is, is in a maner of a meadow, so that when Severn much riseth the water cometh almost about the town. It is supposed that it was of old time less subject to waters, and that the bottom of Severn, then deeper without choaking of sands did at floods leste hurt. It is now but a poor village."

It appears from an inscription dug up in an orchard in the vicinity, that Odo Duke of Mercia was the founder of a monastery here, since converted into a farm-house.

TEWKESBURY,

Is a handsome and populous town, about ten miles from Gloucester, situated in the Vale of Evesham, on the banks of the Avon, near its confluence with the river Severn. The town consists of three principal streets, besides several lanes and alleys. The High-street is of great length, very spacious and elegant,

and leads from the centre of the town towards Worcester; Church-street, which is little inferior in beauty or extent, lies towards the Gloucester and Cheltenham roads; and Barton-street, which is the third, points towards Evesham.

The houses are chiefly of brick; stone being a scarce material in this vicinity. Most of the old wooden habitations have been pulled down, and modern edifices erected in their room; but some specimens of the ancient architecture still remain. In 1786 an act was passed for paving and lighting this place.

According to an uniform tradition, this town derives its name from Theocus, a recluse, who lived about the end of the seventh century, and had a chapel on the banks of the Severn, near this place. And it appears by an ancient inscription, discovered in the church of Leominster, in Herefordshire, in 1592 (a copy of which is preserved in Weever's Funeral Monuments), that Tewkesbury in the Saxon era was called Theotisbyrg, which possibly might mean the borough or town of Theot, an abbreviation of Theocus; some derive the name from Odo, and Dodo, the first Saxon lords of this manor.

To the east of Tewkesbury, ran the Ikeneld-street Roman way, but very small traces of it now appear.

The soil in the town and its environs is chiefly a deep rich loam. The country round is greatly diversified with high sloping hills and deep vallies, fertile meadows, and fine streams. Some of the landscapes in the vicinity are truly delightful, and comprise the Malvern, Bredon, Stanway, and Cotswold Hills, with the rich and spacious vale that lie between.

Contiguous to the town is a large tract of land, called the Ham, which contains nearly 200 acres of as rich meadow land as any in the kingdom. It is occasionally used as a race-ground; is commonable to the freemen and occupiers of front houses from Allhallow-tide to Candlemas. Being surrounded by water, it is very subject to inundations from the fre-

quent rise of the Severn; and the subsiding of those rich particles of earth which are carried by the stream, renders the use of manure wholly unnecessary.

Indeed the town itself is almost surrounded by water. The access into it is by three bridges. That over the Avon is a stone structure of considerable length. The Swilgate and Carron have also commodious bridges thrown over their streams.

The most remarkable public building in this town is the Abbey Church, founded by Odo and Dodo, brothers and dukes of Mercia, on their own estate at Tewkesbury, and dedicated by them to the Virgin Mary. They died about the year 725, and were buried at Pershore. In 1102 Robert Fitz-Hamon, who came over with William the Conqueror, became Baron of Tewkesbury, and rebuilt the church, and advanced it to an abbey. His daughter Mabilla, wife of Robert Earl of Gloucester, built the priory of St. James at Bristol, and subjected it to this abbey. At the dissolution of monasteries, in the reign of Henry VIII. this was burnt down by the king's visitors, so that of the abbey, there are at present but few vestiges remaining, the gateway alone excepted. It is large and handsome, rising to a considerable height, and embattled at the top. The arch is finely proportioned, and much admired by connoisseurs; but though the abbey was doomed to fall, the liberality and piety of the inhabitants, to whom the body of the church belonged, induced them to purchase the chancel, steeple, bells, and church-yard, at the expence of 483*l*.

This church (which is included in the deanery of Winchcomb), stands on the S. W. side of the town, near the entrance from Gloucester and Cheltenham; and was consecrated, according to the best information, by Theulph or Theowold, a prebendary of Bajeux in Normandy, and the bishops of Hereford, Glamorgan, and Dublin, in 1121.

It is built in the form of a cross, upon the intersection of which stands the tower, supported by four

arches, and is a most magnificent and beautiful edifice. From its massive cylindrical pillars, semicircular arches, zig-zag mouldings, and other decorations, it appears to be of the Saxon or early Norman era of architecture. The tower is also in the same style, except the pinnacles, which were added about the commencement of the last century.

The dimensions of this pile are as follow :

Length from east to west 300 feet.

Length of the great cross aisle .. 120 —

Breadth of the choir and side aisles 70 —

Breadth of west front 100 —

Height from the area to the roof 120 feet.

Height of the tower 132 —

The usual entrance is on the north side, through a lofty and spacious portal, inclosed by gates of iron rails, over which is a mutilated image of the Virgin Mary, the patroness of the church. The arch, which forms the west entrance, is singularly beautiful, and much admired; and viewed from within is remarkably grand: but the sublime effect of the entire perspective is diminished by the position of the organ, which intercepts the view.

The area consists of a grand principal aisle or nave, a transept or cross aisle, and two spacious side aisles, which are somewhat lower than the body, and separated from the nave by two rows of massive pillars. There is also a handsome semicircular aisle surrounding the chancel, from the north to the south ends of the transept, in which are the vestry (where the abbey records were formerly kept), several recesses, and chapels, dedicated to the founder, benefactors, and other persons of distinction, and some Gothic tombs of splendid execution.

The pewing of this church was until lately extremely irregular, but, by the munificence and public-spirited exertions of the inhabitants, and the representatives of the borough, that defect has been wholly removed, and the part appropriated to divine worship, fitted up in an elegant style, at the same time perfectly ac-

ording with the architecture of the building, and the purpose for which it was designed.

The organ, now placed over the entrance of the choir, as already mentioned, was first erected by the parishioners in 1737. It originally belonged to a college in Oxford.

The entire roof of this venerable fabric is vaulted with stone, highly ornamented by the tracery of its ribs, the intersections of which are embellished by carvings—whimsical, emblematical, and scriptural. The external covering is of lead.

On the outside of the south wall is a very beautiful arch, now closed, which opened a communication between the south aisle and the abbey and cloisters. From the style of the remaining arches in the side walls, the latter appear to have been extremely handsome.

On the north side of the aisle surrounding the chancel is a large building, for many years occupied as the public Grammar-School, and which appears to have once opened into the chancel. This was most probably the abbey chapter-house. Its stone pillars, its vaulted ceiling, and mural arches, retain sufficient vestiges of their original beauty, though in many places they are much mutilated and defaced.

“ Robert Fitz-Hamon (who built this church) was buried in the chapter-house, in 1107, but removed into the church in 1241, where his bones are laid in a tomb of grey marble, which had brasses on the top, with his figure and ornaments, long since torn off. Abbot Parker inclosed the tomb in a chapel; now standing on the north side of the chancel, and round the top were these words, not legible now :

*In hac capella jacet duc Robertus filius Hamonis,
hujus loci Fundator.*

In this chapel lies Lord Robert, son of Hamon, of this place the founder.

Near the above is Mary Magdalen's, or Spencer's Chapel, with a very beautiful carved roof, apparently

supported by six marble pillars, of which two only are entire. This curious chapel was ornamented with delineations of our Saviour and his Apostles, and with numerous coats of arms, but they are now nearly obliterated. Round the upper part of the wall, within and without, is written :

“ Mememtote domine Isabelle le Despenser comitisse de Warrewick que hanc capellam fundavit in honorem Beatae Marie Magdalence et obiit Londiniis apud Minores, Anno Domini MCCCCXXXIX die sancti Johannis Evangelistæ et sepulta in choro in dextram patris sui cujus animæ parcat Deus. Amen.”

“ In memory of Lady Isabella le Despenser, Countess of Warwick, who founded this chapel in honour of the blessed Mary Magdalen, and died in London, in the Minories, on the day of Saint John the Evangelist, A. D. 1439, and was buried in the choir, at the right hand of her father, on whose soul may God have mercy. Amen.”

On the same side, under a canopy of very curious arched work of four stories, gradually diminishing, and finishing at top in one arch, highly ornamented in the Gothic taste, are the effigies of Lord and Lady Despenser (generally understood to be the Duke and Duchess of Clarence), lying at full length, and sculptured in white marble.

On the south side of the chancel is the Chapel of the Holy Trinity; erected to the memory of Edward Despenser, by Elizabeth his wife. His effigy in armour is placed on the top, in a supplicating posture, having the arms of the Despensers painted on the surcoat.

The roof of this chapel, and that of the founder's are extremely neat; the walls of which, no doubt, as well as those of the other chapels, were once highly ornamented. But the ravages of time, and the depredations of tasteless workmen, have nearly defaced the whole.

A coffin, formed of a single stone, was some few years since dug up near this chapel, and is supposed to have been the receptacle for the body of

Lord Despenser; which, when found, was in a state of excellent preservation.

In the aisle surrounding the chancel, and opposite to the monument of Lord and Lady Despenser, under another arch of hollow work, is the tomb of Guy D'O'Brien, second husband of Lady Despenser, with his figure recumbent, in armour, with this bearing on the right, *three piles en point*, and on the left *three lozenges*; the piles being the arms of the Obriens, and the lozenges of the Montacutes.

In the same aisle, in a little chapel near that of the Holy Trinity, lies, as it is said, Robert Fortington, 12th Abbot of this place, who died in 1253. Over it are these arms, carved in stone: *A chevron between three escalops, over all a palmer's staff in pale.*

Willis says, "under this arch are the effigies of a man lying in full proportion, which is said to have been for Robert Fortington, abbot of this place; but no figure is now existing, though it is probable there was one.

"Nearly opposite to the above, is an ancient altar-monument of grey marble, on the top of which is a cross, carved; and round the verge, which was inlaid with brass, is this inscription:

JOHANNES. ABBAS. IVIVS. LOCI.

"JOHN, ABBOT OF THIS PLACE."

In the south wall, near the vestry door, is the tomb of Alan, one of the abbots of this monastery; on the west end is inscribed,—"*Alanus Dominus Abbas.*" The friend and biographer of Thomas a-Becket, who died in the year 1202.

"The body is deposited in a coffin of purbeck marble, laid under a very plain semi-quatrefoil arch." This coffin was opened in 1795: "when the lid was taken off, the body appeared surprisingly perfect, considering it had lain there nearly 600 years; the folds of the drapery were very distinct; but from being exposed to the air, the whole very soon crumbled away, and left little more than a ske-

leton. The boots, however, still retained their form, and a certain degree of elasticity : they hung in large folds about the legs. On his right side lay a plain crosier of wood, neatly turned, the top of which was gilded, having a cross cut in it, it was five feet eleven inches in length, and remarkably light ; on his left side was the fragment of a chalice."

" On the other side of the same door is another tomb or monument of an Abbot ; but there is no inscription to inform us who he was, or when he presided. This monument is richly beautified with carved work.

" On the south side of the church, under an arch, is a monument, which we apprehend has been erroneously taken for a tomb in memory of the Duke of Somerset, who was beheaded after the battle of Tewkesbury, in 1471; as its bearings are evidently the arms of the Clares, earls of Gloucester, some one of which, it is probable, was interred below.

" Directly opposite, on the north side, under the arch, is the effigy of Lord Wenlock (who was killed by the Duke of Somerset in the battle of Tewkesbury), reclining on a tomb, bearing on the shield, *a chevron between three blackmoor's heads*. Leland tells us that his body was removed to some other place: he is said to have been gentleman of the horse to the Prince of Wales.

" Under the tower is a brass plate, to perpetuate the memory of the unfortunate Edward Prince of Wales, (only son King Henry VI.) who was murdered after the battle of Tewkesbury, by the adherents of King Edward IV. It is uncertain where this prince was interred; but history informs us that his body was thrown into a hole in common with other victims of the battle, who were buried in the abbey."

At the entrance of the chapel dedicated to St. Edward the Martyr, is the cenotaph of Abbot Wych, or Wakeman, who was the first Bishop of Gloucester, after the Reformation.

" In the lower part is a figure, representing the corpse of a priest, in an emaciated state, lying in a

shroud; a subject which frequently occurs on the tombs of ecclesiastics. The canopy is of the latest style of Gothic architecture, being overcharged with a great profusion of arches, quatrefoils, and other ornaments. The Bishop was buried at his Chapel at Forthampton."

In 1796 the choir was again altered, fitted up with new pews, and otherwise improved at an *expence* of 2000*l*. The effect of this portion of the fabric, is singularly grand and beautiful. The east end is hexagonal, and is separated from the aisles by six massive short columns, which support pointed arches. Beneath these are some large monuments, and over the arches are windows filled with painted glass. In two of them are very curious figures of Knights in armour, eight in number, and are represented standing under very rich Gothic canopies, each nearly filling one of the principal compartments of the window. Some are in mail, some in plated armour. The upper and smaller compartments of these windows are filled with scrolls of vine branches on a brilliant red ground, disposed in very good taste. According to the best authorities, these figures represent Robert Fitzroy, Earl of Gloucester; the three Gilberts de Clare, Earls of Gloucester; Richard de Clare, Earl of Gloucester; Hugh le Despenser, the younger, and one of the La Zouch family.

The Lady Chapel, which, as was customary, stood at the east end, is entirely destroyed; but a large arch through which it was entered from the church, is still seen on the outside, and appears in an engraved plate. This represents the east view of the church, the transept and tower, and exhibits a considerable portion of the original fabric erected by Robert Fitz-Hamon, the second founder of the Abbey. The exterior of some of the chapels which surround the choir, are also displayed. The great arch at the west end of the church is singularly magnificent; the parapet and pinnacles were added when the pointed arch window was introduced.

The cloisters were on the south side of the nave, and some of them still remain, and appear to have been highly ornamented. The tower is lofty, and the most remarkable specimens of its architecture are three tiers of arcades in the upper part; the arches of the middle tier are intersected.

Tewkesbury is an ancient borough, governed by twenty-four principal burgesses, who (with twenty-four assistants) have an internal government or constitution, independent of the justices for the county. From these are annually elected, two bailiffs, and four justices, who, with the recorder, are the ruling magistrates of this corporation.

It was first incorporated by charter, 17th of Elizabeth, by the name of the bailiffs, burgesses, and community, of the borough of Tewkesbury; and King James I. in the seventh year of his reign, granted them other charters, which were surrendered under the common seal of the corporation to King James II. who re-incorporated them the second year of his reign, by the name of mayor, aldermen, and common council, but there were no mayor or officers chosen by virtue of the new charter; and the government of the town, as a corporation, totally ceased till the thirteenth year of King William III. when the present charter was obtained.

Tewkesbury sends two members to parliament, who are chosen by the freemen and proprietors of freehold houses, the number of voters amounting to about five hundred. The bailiffs are the returning officers.

For the present handsome Town Hall, the inhabitants are indebted to Sir William Codrington, Bart. who erected it at an expence of 1200*l.*, and presented it to the corporation.

This structure was finished in 1788. The ground floor is chiefly appropriated for a hall, where the quarter sessions are held. The principal story consists of a handsome banqueting or ball-room, of large dimensions, ornamented with a portrait of the founder,

painted by Sir William Beechey, Knight; and of a drawing-room used as a council-chamber where the corporation meet. Adjoining the hall, is the town-clerk's office, in which the public business of the borough is transacted.

Tewkesbury was formerly famous for its manufactures. It had once a considerable share in the clothing business, but that trade has long since been lost. It was likewise remarkable for its mustard balls; which being very pungent, have occasioned this proverb, applied to a sharp fellow, *He looks like Tewkesbury mustard*; and Shakespeare, speaking of one with a sad, severe countenance, uses the simile, *as thick as Tewkesbury mustard*. The chief manufacture at present, is stocking-frame work, knitting, particularly cotton; but it likewise carries on a considerable trade in malting, and has some nailing business.

Here are two weekly markets, on Wednesday and Saturday, for pigs, sheep, grain, poultry, and butchers' meat. Beside these there are two statute fairs, called Mops, for hiring the men and women servants, the Wednesday before old Michaelmas Day, and the Wednesday after.

“The markets of Tewkesbury were formerly held under an open part of the old town-hall; but that edifice being removed, a commodious market-place was erected, at the upper end of the Church-street, at the joint expence of twenty subscribers; to whom (in consideration of their having erected such building) a lease was granted, by the corporation, of the tolls for stallage, for the term of ninety-nine years, at the end of which term, the building and all the profits of the market were to revert to the corporation.

This market is well frequented, and is extremely well supplied with all the necessaries of life.

The House of Industry is a large brick building, well adapted for its destination; situated on Holme Hill, near the entrance of the town from Gloucester and Cheltenham.

The Free Grammar School stands contiguous to the north end of the Abbey Church, and consists only of one apartment. In the charter granted to this borough by King William, it is called the School of William Ferrers, on account of his having been a principal benefactor to it. The bailiffs, justices, chamberlain, and town-clerk, are the governors for the time being.

The whole parish of Tewkesbury is about six miles in circumference. It contains the two hamlets of the Mythe and Southwick.

“ The word Mythe seems clearly to be derived from a Greek word, which remotely signifies a *station*. The eminence which goes under the denomination of the Mythe, is formed by Nature for a military station, being difficult of access in every part except the north. The Severn and the Avon, which flow at its base, and meet each other in the valley, add to its security; and, in ancient times, it was no doubt a strong position for an army. The Romans frequently adopted the terms of the Greeks; and the very name which the place now bears, decides it to have been formerly a Roman military station.”

On the south-west side of the Mythe, there is a *Tumulus*, the summit of which commands beautiful and extensive prospects: its front is a very abrupt precipice, at the foot of which runs the Severn, whose windings add a richness to the variegated surrounding landscapes. When their late Majesties and the Princesses resided at Cheltenham, in the year 1788, this spot had the honour of several royal visits. It used to be called by the name of the *Mythe Tute*, but it has since been aptly changed to that of *Royal Hill*.

The Mythe is situated about half a mile north of Tewkesbury, and is ornamented by several handsome seats. These command exceedingly rich and wide extended prospects, in which Tewkesbury, the Severn, with the Avon, and a pleasing variety of hills and vales, form the principal objects of attraction.

Southwick is briefly mentioned in the extract from Doomsday-Book, at the beginning of the account of the manor of Tewkesbury.

THE LODGE, in this hamlet, is charmingly situated on a lofty eminence, rising by a gentle acivity, on the banks of the Severn, and about a mile south-west of the town. The views from this spot are very picturesque; the eye commanding a spacious tract of land, enriched by a diversity of very beautiful scenery. This situation formerly constituted Tewkesbury Park, as it appears from Leland.

We find nothing particularly interesting in the earlier periods of the history of Tewkesbury. The Danes committed some ravages here, but to what extent has not been handed down. During the time of the celebrated Robert Earl of Gloucester, (anno 1139) the town was taken and pillaged by Walleran de Beaumont; but the abbey was spared. The most remarkable occurrence in the history of this place is the bloody battle fought on the fourth of May, 1471, between the rival houses of York and Lancaster, by which the hopes of the latter were entirely destroyed, and the crown secured to Edward I. Holinshed, the father of English history, and whose works are very rare, perhaps gives the most correct account of this important event.

Mr. Dyde observes, that the local memorials of this very decisive battle are but few. The principal scenes of the action are the meadow, which has received the appellation of Bloody Meadow, and the Vineyard. The former lies between two gently descending banks, about half a mile south-west of the town, and was the spot where the slaughter was the greatest. The latter was the place where queen Margaret lay, and where some intrenchments are still to be traced.

Upon the Avon, in the parish of Twining, near Tewkesbury, is TOWBERRY HILL, an ancient camp of several acres, double-trenched, which Leland mentions, "it is a two miles from Theokesbyrie, above it in Ripa Levæ Sabrina, upon a clyffe with double

ditches, in the parochie of Twynning. It is overgrown with juniper trees. It longed to Winchelcomb Abbey; peradventure it was King Offa, or King Ranulphus' house."

At BECKFORD, about five miles east from Tewkesbury, there was a priory of Austin Canons, founded by Robert Fitz-Hamon, in the reign of Henry III. as a cell to the abbey of St. Martin and St. Barbara, in Normandy. The Church of this village is very ancient; in 1622 the spire was become so much decayed from age, that it was taken down, and the present tower erected in its place.

At WALTON, close to Tewkesbury, there is a medicinal spring, similar to that of Cheltenham.

Journey from Bristol to Cirencester; through Sodbury and Tetbury.

About two miles and a half north-east from Bristol, on the left of our road, is STOKES STAPLETON, a very pleasant village, in which are some good houses, and extensive temporary barracks for prisoners of war. South of the church is the seat of Isaac Elton, Esq. an elegant mansion, with extensive gardens and plantations.

A mile and a half north of Stapleton, is STOKES, a seat of the Duke of Beaufort, in the parish of Stoke Gifford. This capital mansion was originally built by Sir Richard Berkely, in the reign of Queen Elizabeth. It was greatly damaged during the Civil Wars in the reign of Charles I. It was rebuilt by the late Lord Botetourt, about the year 1760, and it is now a very noble mansion, highly deserving the stranger's observation. It stands on the brow of a lofty hill that rises abruptly from a fine lawn. The carriage way winds through this lawn by an easy ascent up to the house, where is a fine bold terrace in the front, commanding a beautiful view of the surrounding country. The house is situated in the centre of an extensive park, full of fine wood and beautiful plantations.

FRENCHAY is a very respectable village, containing

a great number of handsome houses belonging to the merchants and opulent tradesmen of Bristol, from which it is about five miles distant.—Here is a Presbyterian meeting-house, which has a tower and a bell in it, the only one in all England so furnished. Here is also a Quakers' meeting-house.

About a mile and a half before we reach YATE, on the left of our road is IRON ACTON, a village so called from the great quantity of iron ore and cinders dug up in the parish. Here is a beautiful cross, probably erected to serve as a pulpit for preaching friars.

There are three small villages of the name of Sodbury, with the epithets of Chipping, Old, and Little. CHIPPING SODBURY was endowed by King Stephen with the same privileges as Bristol; and a charter of incorporation was granted by Charles II. which was afterwards, at the request of the inhabitants, annulled by proclamation. The chief trade of this place is in cheese; it has a market on Thursday. OLD SODBURY, though only a village, is the mother church. On the brow of a hill in the hamlet of LITTLE SODBURY, there is an ancient camp, of an oblong form, 320 yards long, and 200 broad. It is not known by whom it was made, nor have any coins been found there. Edward IV. lay here with his army a little before the battle of Tewkesbury.

About five miles from Chipping Sodbury, on the right of our road, is BADMINTON HOUSE, another seat of the Duke of Beaufort's, situated in an extensive park nearly nine miles in circumference. The mansion was erected by the first Duke of Beaufort, about the year 1682, and is a spacious building upon the French model, which was much in vogue at the beginning of the last century. In the hall is a large sarcophagus of Roman sculpture, representing a Bacchanalian procession; this was a present from Cardinal Alberoni to Henry, the third Duke of Beaufort. This nobleman (who died young, in 1745) added many curious and original paintings to the collection at this house, obtained during his residence in Italy. Among them is

a Holy Family, by Raphael; several by Guido and Carlo Dolci, of great value; and the very curious satirical picture painted by Salvator Rosa, for which he was banished from Rome. The sovereigns of Europe are here represented by different animals, as an eagle, a wolf, a sheep, a hog, a fox, a cow, and an ass; the latter has the pontifical pall thrown over him; and the goddess Fortune is showering her gifts over the whole group. The collection also contains some fine landscapes, by the Italian masters, and a series of fourteen portraits of the Beaufort family, from John of Gaunt, highly interesting to the English antiquary.

About three miles north-west from Badminton, is WICKWAR, a small market town and very ancient corporation, being governed by a mayor and alderman. The market day is on Monday. The town is well watered by two brooks, over one of which is a handsome stone bridge. There is a Free-school belonging to the town, and the neighbouring wastes afford plenty of coal.

In the garden of the manor-house there was many years since a chesnut-tree, which measured 19 yards, or 57 feet in circumference, at the height of six feet above the ground, and supposed to have been planted in the reign of King John, about the year 1216.

TETBURY,

Twenty-six miles from Bristol is a considerable town, agreeably situated on an eminence on the borders of Wiltshire. The town consists principally of four streets, which meet in the centre. On the south-east side there were formerly to be seen the traces of an ancient camp, now completely destroyed, in the area of which arrows and javelin-heads have been found, with various British coins of great antiquity. There was also a castle here, said to have been built above 2000 years ago by a British king. Several Roman coins have been found in and near the town. In the year 1770 the Old Church was undermined by

GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

a flood, which occasioned the roof to fall, and in other respects did so much damage, that it was rebuilt at the expence of 6000*l*. The new building was opened for public worship, October 7, 1781, and is a very handsome structure. The inside is divided into aisles, by a very light arcade and clustered columns, which however support nothing, as the principle on which the roof of the Theatre at Oxford was constructed, has been applied to this building. The tower belonged to the Old Church; it has now a handsome spire on it.

There is an Alms-house here for eight persons, founded and endowed by the bounty of Sir William Romney, (alderman and sheriff of London in the reign of King James I.), a native of this town; who also founded a Free Grammar School here, which has produced several eminent scholars. There is another school, founded by Mrs. Elizabeth Hodges, of Shipton Moyne, besides many other charitable establishments.

The inhabitants of this town are principally engaged in the woollen manufactory and sale of yarn, which is sold on the market-day in the market-house, in the middle of the town; whereas cheese, bacon, and other commodities, are sold in great quantities at a smaller market-house.

The parish is ten miles in circumference, nearly the whole of which is the property of the inhabitants. The Avon rises in it, which runs through Bath and Bristol into the Severn; and at the end of the town is a long high bridge, half of which is in Wiltshire.

The public revenue is managed by a bailiff chosen every year.

North of the town is a petrifying spring, which encrusts pieces of wood and stone with a strong stony substance.

The annual races are run upon a large common about one mile eastward of the town, and are much frequented by the neighbouring gentry.

The weekly market is on Monday.

92 Ten miles distant from Tetbury, we arrive at

CIRENCESTER, OR CICETER;

A large and populous market and borough town, situated on the borders of Wiltshire, at the point where the three great Roman roads, the Fosse-way, the Erming-street, and the Ikeneld-street meet. It appears to have been a place of consequence from the earliest period of our history, and more particularly so during the time the Romans possessed the country. It was then the principal town of *Dobuni*, and the seat of a Roman colony. It is called *Corinum* by Ptolemy and Ravennas, and *Duroconovium*, i. e. the *Water of Churn*, by Antoninus.

The present town occupies a part only of the ancient site, which extended on the south-east side to the *Lewis* or *Leauses* grounds, a garden, part of the Abbey-ground in the tything of Chesterton, where, it is supposed, was the Prætorium.

The ancient city was surrounded by a wall and ditch; the foundation of the former is still visible, appearing to have been eight feet thick, and built of hewn stone. This wall is supposed to have been destroyed soon after the time of Henry IV. Leland, in his Itinerary, observes, that “a man may yet, walking on the bank of Churne, evidently perceyve the cumpace of foundation of towers sumtyme standing in the wall. And ner to the place where the right goodlie clothing mylle was set up lately by the Abbate, was broken down the ruin of an old tower, toward makynge of the mylle waulles, in the which place was found a quadrate stone, faullen down afore, but broken in many pieces, wherein was a Roman inscription, of the which one scantlie lettered that saw yt, told me that he might perceyve PONT MAX. Among divers other coins found frequently there, Dioclesian’s be most fairest; but I cannot adfirme the inscription to have been dedicate onto hym. In the middle of the old town, in a meadow, was found a flore of *versicoloribus*; and by the town, in our

time, was found a broken shank-bone of a horse, the mouth closed with a pegge; the which taken out, a shepard found it filled with silver money. In the south south-west side of the wall, be lykelehod hath been a castle, or sum other great building; the hills and ditches yet remayne. The place is now a waren for conys, and therein hath bene found mens bones of uncommon size, also two sepulchres of hewn stone. In one was a round vessel of lead covered, and in it ashes and peaces of bones."

Leland was also informed by the Abbot of Ciren-
cester, that he had found in the ruins arched stones,
sculptured with large Roman letters. Various Ro-
man coins have been found here, and Sir Robert
Aitkyns mentions a curious building under ground,
accidentally discovered. "This was fifty feet long
and forty broad, and about four feet high, supported
by a hundred brick pillars, inlaid very curiously with
tesseraick work, with stones of divers colours, little
bigger than dice."

Dr. Stukely, speaking of the Lewes or Leauses
above mentioned, says, "large quantities of carved
stones are carried off from this tract yearly, to mend
the highways, besides what are useful in building.
A fine Mosaic pavement was dug up here in Septem-
ber 1723, with coins. I bought a little head which
had been broken off from a basso-relievo, and seems,
by the *tiara* of a very old shape, like fortification
work, to have been the genius of a city, or some of
the *Deæ Matres* which are in old inscriptions."
Among the remains mentioned by Dr. Stukely, is a
stone with the following Roman inscription, now pre-
served in a garden-wall in Castle-street:

D. M.
IVLIAE CASTAE
CONIVGI VIX.
ANN. XXXIII.

On making the aqueduct for the supply of the
Thames and Severn Canal in 1786, many urns and

other antiquities were discovered; among them was an urn of brown earthenware, containing burnt bones enclosed in a case of lead; a stylus with a flat edge, for the purpose of obliteration; a Fibula; the bust of a young man in bronze; and another bust, apparently of Bacchus.

The ancient building mentioned by Sir Robert Aitkyns was again opened in 1780, when it was discovered to be a *Roman Hypocaust*. In exploring the ruins, the workmen found a floor of coarse mortar at the depth of three feet and a half from the surface; which extended about twelve feet to the north-east, and then discontinued, upon sinking deeper at this spot.

“ They came to another floor of terras, four feet five inches below the surface of the first, and running all the way under it; the upper floor being supported by rows of brick pillars, which stood upon that beneath. Having cleared away the earth from the second or last-mentioned floor, they came to a wall of hewn stone, rising within about two feet of the surface of the ground, at the distance of fifteen feet from the broken edge of the upper terras, which latter, it is evident, had originally extended to the wall: here seems to have been the boundary of the works on the north-east side: on the south-east side they found another wall making a right angle with the former. In each wall was observed five massy stones, forming the crown of an arch, the cavity of which lay almost entirely below the top of the second terras. In order to examine these arches, a small part of the under floor was beat up along the sides of the walls, and at the depth of thirty-four inches, a third strong floor of terras was discovered, running into the second; the space between being filled up with rough stones, thrown together in a promiscuous manner. This last served as a floor to the arches, which had nothing in them but rubbish, and at bottom a bed of wood-ashes, about two inches thick. An apartment, or vault of the same description, was

found adjoining on the south-east, but much less perfect. The great strength and stability of the vaulting are remarkable. The upper floor of each vault is fourteen inches thick; the pillars are thirty-nine inches high, and eight inches and a quarter square; they consist of courses of entire bricks of the same superficial dimensions, and about one inch and three quarters thick, except that each pillar has a large brick, eleven inches square, for its base, and another of the same size, by way of capital. There are only twenty-two pillars now standing, though, originally, there must have been nearly double that number."—*Rudder's Gloucestershire*.

A tessellated pavement was discovered in 1777, under a warehouse in Dyer-street, about six feet below the surface. It suffered much injury from the workmen before it was observed. It was about sixteen or eighteen feet square, with a chequered border, fourteen inches in breadth, composed of blue and white tesserae. This pavement was divided into four equal compartments by lines of hearts linked together, or interlaced feetwise. The central pieces consisted of an octagon-wreathed border, inclosing a star with wavy rays, directed to the angles of the octagon; and had also a small figure of the same kind in the middle of each compartment; all besides within the borders and compartments consisted of chequered-work. No care having been taken to preserve the remains of this pavement from the effects of their exposure to the atmosphere, the whole has been gradually destroyed.

Part of another, and more beautiful pavement, was discovered in the same street, under a house formerly belonging to John Smith, Esq. This has been carefully preserved, and is still as perfect as when found. It is composed of various coloured tesserae, and represents sea monsters, shell and sea-fish, and parts of other figures, one of which is mounted on the back of a whale. A drawing was made of this pavement by

S. Lysons, Esq., and presented to the Society of Antiquaries, who have had it engraved.

Among the many other Roman antiquities discovered at this place, are to be mentioned the coins of Antoninus and Constantine; a fine brass figure of Apollo, now in the Bodleian Library at Oxford; several small altars; a monumental stone, with the following inscription:

DM
P VICANAE
P VITALIS
CONIVX

and a funeral urn of green glass, of a square form, found in a field called King's Mead, about half a mile from the town. Mr. S. Lysons describes this urn to have been wrapped in lead, and deposited in a stone, hollowed out to receive it: "It is of a greenish colour, not very transparent, but well moulded, having several raised circles on its bottom, quite smooth, without any appearance of ever having been fastened to a blowing-iron, as all modern glass vessels are in the making. Its diameter at the top is five inches and three eighths; height ten inches and one eighth; and width at the bottom five inches and five eighths."—The hollowed stone was covered with a flat one, and found in a piece of ground about twenty feet square, inclosed with a stone wall below the ground, with a corner arched, turned over it.

A Roman origin is also ascribed to a spot of ground called the *Queen's*, on the south-west of the town, full of large stones, but now covered with herbage, within which is the *Bull-Ring*; a supposed Roman amphitheatre. It is thus described in the *History of Cirencester*.

"The area is of an elliptical form, inclosed with a mound or wall of earth about twenty feet high, very regularly sloped on the inside with rows of seats like steps, one below another from top to bottom: these are overgrown with herbage and defaced by time.

The longest diameter of the area is about sixty-three yards, the other forty-six : it has one avenue on the east side, and another on the west ; and there is also a straight approach to it under ground, on the south, between stone walls about two feet and a half asunder, pointing to the centre of the area."

After the departure of the Romans, this city was retained by the Britons until they were dispossessed by the West Saxons, in 577. It was afterwards, in 656, annexed to the Mercian kingdom, by Penda, the first Christian king of Mercia. After the treaty made in consequence of Alfred's victory over the Danish chief, Gothrum, at Eddington in Wiltshire, in 879, the latter, with his followers, resided here a whole year, previous to their departure to the eastern parts of the island. In 1020, Canute held a great council here, at which Duke Ethelwold was expelled his dominions. During the war between Stephen and the Empress Maud, her half-brother, Robert Earl of Gloucester, garrisoned Cirencester Castle ; but it was soon afterwards surprised by the king, and burnt. In the time of Henry III. the barons got possession of this castle ; but the king recovering it, issued his warrant for its total demolition. In the 16th of the reign of King John, a large army was assembled here by that monarch. The most remarkable military anecdote recorded of this place, is the suppression, by the townsmen, of the insurrection of the Dukes of Aumerle, Surrey, and Exeter, the Earls of Gloucester and Salisbury and their adherents, in the reign of Henry IV. These noblemen had planned to assassinate the king, during the tournament to be held before him at Oxford, but the plot being discovered to the king, Aumerle and the other conspirators assembled an army to surprise the monarch at Windsor ; but he being equally active, marched towards them with an army of 20,000 men, and compelled them to retreat to Cirencester, where the chiefs took up their quarters, their army being encamped without the walls.

Taking advantage of this circumstance, the bailiff and about four hundred of the inhabitants seized the gates, and attacked the unsuspecting noblemen in their quarters. The Duke of Surrey and the Earl of Salisbury were taken and beheaded; the Duke of Exeter and the Earl of Gloucester escaped to the camp, which they found deserted; the troops having fled on hearing the confusion in the town. The particulars of this event are thus detailed in Holinshed's Chronicle. " They came to Cirencestre in the dark of the night, and took up their lodgings. The inhabitants, suspecting the matter as the truthe was, they tooke counsaile together, and got them to armour, and stopped all the entries and outgates of the inns where these new gwestes were lodged; insomuch that when they, about midnight, secretlie attempted to have come forth, and gone their waies, the townsmen, with bowe and arrowe, were ready to stay them, and keep them in. The lords perceiving the danger, got them to their armour and weapons, and did their best by force to repulse the townsmen; but after they had foughte from midnight till three o'clock of the eveninge of the next day, they yielded themselves to the townsmen; beseeching them to have their lives saved till they might come into the presence of the king. This requeste they had obtained, if a priest that was chaplaine to one of them, had not, in the mean tyme, set fire on certain houses of the town, that whiles the townsmen were busie to quench the fire, the lordes might find means to escape; but it came to nothing to passe as he imagined; for the townsmen, leaving all care to save their houses from the rage of the fire, were kindled more in furie towards the lordes, and soe to revenge themselves of them, they brought them forth of the abbey, where they hadde them in their handes, and on the twilight of the eveninge stroke of their heads." The king, to reward the inhabitants of Cirencester for their loyalty, granted them all the property of the conspirators found in the town, except plate, jewels, and money; together with four

does in season from Braden Forest, and one hogshead of wine from Bristol, yearly to the men; and six bucks and a hogshead of wine yearly, to the women of Cirencester.

During the Civil Wars in the reign of Charles I. this town declared for the Parliament, and was of such strength as to be deemed the Key of Gloucestershire. On the 21st January 1642, the king's forces, commanded by Prince Rupert, began to move towards Cirencester; it was immediately and on the second of February, carried by assault. The garrison lost 300 men killed, 1200 taken prisoners, and 160 wounded. "The town," observes Clarendon, "yielded much plunder, from which the undistinguishing soldier could not be kept, but was equally injurious to friend and foe; so that many honest men who were imprisoned by the rebels, found themselves at liberty and undone together. In the year 1643, the Earl of Essex recovered the town for the Parliament, and garrisoned it under Sir Nicholas Crisp and Colonel Spencer.

Before the Conquest, there was a rich college of prebendaries; and in 1117, Henry I. built a stately abbey here for Black Canons; he dedicated it to the Virgin Mary, and endowed it with the revenues of the college before mentioned. Several of the succeeding kings liberally increased the original endowments, so that at the Dissolution in 1539, it was valued at 1051*l.* 7*s.* 1*d.* per annum. The Abbey Church was of Saxon architecture, and according to a manuscript preserved at Benet College, Cambridge, was 280 feet in length, and of proportionable dimensions. The site and buildings of the abbey were granted by Henry VIII. to Robert Bassinge, Esq.; who was commanded to pull down and remove all the edifices within the abbey precincts; which was done so completely, that of the church not the least vestige remains to ascertain its situation; and all that now exists of the abbey buildings, are the Almory Gate, the Spital Gate, and a large barn. The seat of Thomas

Master, Esq. now called the Abbey, occupies the site of most of the monastic buildings.

An hospital dedicated to St. John the Evangelist, was also founded here by King Henry I. for three poor men and three poor women; it is yet in being, and these six poor persons have each an allowance of one shilling and eightpence per week, and a share of the fines for the renewal of leases of lands, with which the hospital is endowed when they happen.

Saint Laurence's Hospital in this town was founded in the time of Edward III. by Edith, lady of one We-gold, for a master and two poor women. The master was formerly nominated by the abbot, but is now presented by the king. The two poor women have now about 2s. 6d. per week each. Saint Thomas's Hospital was founded for four decayed weavers, by Sir William Nottingham, who died in the year 1427. This also is yet in being, under the government of the weavers' company.

The church at Cirencester is esteemed one of the most magnificent parochial edifices in the kingdom. It was finished only a few years prior to the dissolution of the abbey. The interior consists of a nave, side aisles, a choir, a chancel, and five chapels. At the west end is a handsome tower, 134 feet high, ornamented with battlements, pinnacles, and statues. On the south side is a most beautiful porch, highly ornamented on the outside, with grotesque figures, carved niches, canopies sculptured, cornices, and open worked battlements, and within by radiated tracery, spreading over the roof in eight circular fan-shaped compartments, which rise from single pillars, and meet in the centre, where the lozenges formed by the extremes of the circles, are ornamented with circles of quatrefoils. The inside of the church contains two rows of clustered columns, five in each, which, with two pilasters at each end, support the roof. The windows were originally filled with painted glass; but a great deal having been broken or misplaced, the chief part of

what remained has been collected from the others in the church, and replaced with superior taste in the great east and west windows, under the direction of S. Lysons, Esq. In the west window is a portrait, supposed to represent Richard Duke of York, father to Edward IV. Of the chapels, that dedicated to St. Catherine is entitled to particular notice. It is situated on the north side of the church, between the chancel and St. Mary's Chapel. The central compartments of its pendant roof, are richly ornamented with a variety of carved work, consisting of roses and foliage, the arms of Henry VII. within the garter, and the cognizances of the King and Prince of Wales. The length of the chapel is thirty-four feet; its breadth thirteen.

There are several rich sepulchral *brasses*, which are very curious, and worthy the notice of the antiquary. Drawings have been made of three of the most remarkable, by Mr. Lysons. They are in Trinity Chapel, and represent William Prelatte, Esq. and his two wives. The former appears in plated armour, with a gorget of mail, having a dagger on his right side, and long sword across his middle. The ladies have the mitred head-dress of that age, (the fifteenth century) with veils, long loose gowns with close sleeves, and cuffs of ermine; at their feet are little dogs with collars of bells.

There are many curious inscriptions and monuments contained in the different parts of this church. In Trinity Chapel, is an elegant marble monument, with the bust of Allen Earl Bathurst, and his lady, and a weeping figure between them; and adjoining to this, another monument to the memory of the earl's son, the LORD CHANCELLOR BATHURST, who died in 1794, aged 90.

On the outside of St. John's Church, at Cirencester, under the parapet of the north side of the nave, is a range of curious sculpture, representing a series of figures chiefly habited as minstrels, with various

instruments of music used in the fifteenth century. These figures represent the characters of a *Whitsun Ale*: one of them, supposed to be the lord of the feast, is arrayed in a hunting dress, having a cap with feathers, a bugle-horn, and in his left hand an arrow; in his right he holds a scroll, with this inscription—**BE MERRY.** The *Whitsun Ale* is still commemorated in some of the villages in this part of Gloucestershire; and at these meetings, the performers are represented by the peasantry, dressed in the characters of a lord, his lady, steward, purse-bearer, fool, &c. The day is spent in festivity and dancing.

Under the parapet on the south side, there is another range of figures in the same style, representing death, a monk, an abbot, a king, a prize-fighter with a sword and dagger, an angel, &c.

There are several public schools at Cirencester, the most ancient of which is the Free Grammar School, founded by Bishop Ruthall, a native of this town, and a privy counsellor to Henry VII. Several eminent persons have been educated at this school. The Blue-Coat School was established by subscription, in 1714. It was afterwards endowed with 15*l.* per annum by Thomas Powell, Esq. out of an annuity payable from the Exchequer for ninety-nine years, and with a moiety of the profits of Maskeleyne's Ham, in Cricklade. "And the Court of Chancery, in 1737, appropriated 20*l.* a year out of the estates bequeathed to Mrs. Powell, for erecting and endowing a charity school, or schools, in this parish, for the support of this school; and in 1744, appointed the produce of 562*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.*, to be paid yearly for the benefit of this school, as a provisional supply after the expiration of the annuity out of the Exchequer."—The Yellow-Coat School was founded under the will of Mrs. Rebecca Powell, who died in 1722, for teaching twenty boys of Cirencester reading and arithmetic, and the art of frame-work knitting; and for clothing, teaching, and learning twenty girls to

spin. This school was not commenced until the year 1737, fifteen years after the death of the testatrix, owing to some delay in the Court of Chancery.

The chief trade of Cirencester is wool-stapling, and the manufacture of heavy edge-tools, particularly *curriers' knives*, which are much esteemed, and made by three or four houses in this town, by one at Gloucester, and at scarcely any other place in the kingdom. From the junction of the Thames with the Severn, a cut has been made to Cirencester, by which means it has the advantage of water-carriage to most parts of the kingdom.

Here are two good weekly markets, on Monday and Friday.

The town of Cirencester is a distinct hundred, being so made by Henry IV. It is divided into seven wards; and the steward of the manor annually appoints two high constables and two petty constables for each ward, with other inferior officers.

The town was first incorporated by Henry IV., whose charter was cancelled in the reign of Queen Elizabeth; and another granted, by which the municipal government was vested in a steward and bailiff; but it is now governed by two high constables, and the fourteen wardsmen chosen as before-mentioned.

Cirencester has sent two members to parliament since A. D. 1568. Although there have been many resolutions of the committees of the house, on the right of election for this borough, yet none of them have received the sanction of the House of Commons; the right is consequently at present undefined, but generally understood to be in the inhabitant householders of the borough not receiving alms. The number of voters is about 500.

Cirencester is celebrated for the salubrity of its air. It consists of four principal and seven smaller streets, besides lanes, &c. Coming in to the town from Gloucester, a great part of the street is a hollow-way, where a portion of the river Churn runs, which

empties itself into one of the arms of that river at the second bridge. Tradition says the river formerly ran through the town. The Stroudwater Navigation has a communication with this town, from which great advantage must arise. According to the returns under the population act, the number of inhabitants in 1801 amounted to 4130.

On the west of Cirencester is OAKLEY GROVE, the seat of Henry Earl Bathurst, remarkable for the beauty of its extensive grounds, which were laid out and perfected in the lifetime, and under the particular directions of Allen Earl Bathurst, father to the present noble proprietor. The entrance to the park is at a lodge on the north side of the house, by a spacious gravel walk, lined on each side by a row of stately elms. At a small distance from the entrance to the left, is an oblique prospect of the north-west front of the house, with a fine sweep of lawn before it, and a grove of lofty trees on each side; turning to the right, the walk divides—one branch leads to the terrace, the other runs by the side of it, in a serpentine direction, above a mile in length, finely arched and shaded; at the end is a small building, called Pope's Seat, where this great genius frequently retired when on a visit to his noble friend.

There is a lawn, to the centre of which eight vistas are directed, terminating with the prospect of the neighbouring churches and adjacent country; the terrace is sheltered on the north-east by a thick plantation of wood, with a border of shrubs and evergreens. It commands a distant prospect of the north of Wiltshire, and terminates at a handsome octagonal building about a mile from the house. In the middle of the terrace, at a large pair of gates, (a communication between the Deer and Lodge parks), is seen a large lake of water, a little to the right of the house, having the appearance of a considerable river, but is only a pleasing deception, produced by planting clumps of trees, to conceal the extremities of the lake. To the westward of this park are the

Lodge Park, and Oakley Woods, which deserve particular notice: near the middle of them, on a rising ground, is the point from which, like so many radii, ten cuts or ridings issue; the largest, about fifty yards wide, has the lofty tower of Cirencester to terminate the view. Concealed as it were in the woods, is Alfred's Hall, an excellent imitation of antiquity, with a bowling-green, and many beautiful lawns and agreeable walks about it.

The plan of this edifice is French, with a large hall in the middle. The east front is of freestone, and of great length, and the west front has had a portico and wings added to it by the earl. The portraits in the interior are of the first order. Connected with the park, about two miles on the road to Stroudwater, are the majestic woods called *Oakley-wood*, and *Lodge-park*, planted by the first Lord Bathurst, the shade of which, he lived to enjoy with philosophic calmness. In the deepest recesses of this wood is a modern ruin, called *Alfred's Hall*, as being the supposed place where Alfred signed the treaty with Guthrun the Dane.—In the park is an ancient stone cross, which formerly stood in the little market-place in Cirencester. The shaft is about thirteen feet high, and the capital had some shields of arms, now nearly obliterated. The first Lord Bathurst, the friend of Pope, allowed of an uninterrupted access to this delightful place, an indulgence which has been continued by his successors, and would probably be as common here as it is on the Continent, were the people equally as nice and as reserved as they ought to be, instead of indulging a meddling propensity, too frequently degenerating into pilfering and spoliation.

Journey from Cirencester to Lechlade and Fairford.

The church at SIDDINGTON ST. PETER, a small village two miles south of Cirencester, is entitled to notice on account of its antiquity and architecture. It is dedicated to St. Peter, and has a handsome chapel or aisle, on the north side, erected in the 15th

century, by Edmund Langley. The south door-way of the church is in the Saxon style, with two columns on each side. The capitals of the inner columns are grotesque heads, and the moulding springing from them, is also ornamented by a series of heads of various forms.

The church at **SOUTH CERNEY**, another small village, about three miles from Siddington, is also a very ancient and curious building.

At *Rendcome*, six miles north of Cirencester, is a mansion belonging to the Bishop of Durham, situated in an extensive park. The manor has belonged successively to the noble families of Clare, De Audley, Nevill, Stafford, &c.

Two miles eastward from South Cerney is **DOWN AMPNEY**, situated near a small rivulet, called Ampney Brook, on the edge of the county, adjoining Wiltshire. The church is curious, and is said to have been built by the Knights Templars, about the year 1260. Under the window, at the south end of the transept, is the tomb of Sir Nicholas de Villiers, and his lady, with their effigies, represented under an arch. The knight is represented as a crusader, in mail and surtout, with his legs crossed, his feet resting on a lion, and his right hand on the hilt of his sword; on his left arm is a shield, bearing the cross of St. George, charged with five escallop-shells. This figure is of hard blue stone; that of the lady is of free-stone, and much mutilated.—The manor-house having been repaired and modernized, has lost many traces of its ancient character. It was erected by the Hungerfords in the reign of Henry the Eighth. The portal, or gateway, was flanked by octangular turrets, embattled or embellished with the arms and cypher of Sir Anthony Hungerford. Upon the wainscot of the hall, which is of small compartments filled with mantles, are many grotesque mouldings, and the date 1537.

At Down Ampney is an old seat belonging to the Earl of St. Germans; and at Ampney St. Mary's, an ancient mansion belonging to Mrs. Blackwell.

Three miles from hence is Kempsford, anciently a royal demesne. "There is a well-founded tradition," observes Bigland, "that Kempsford was the site of a royal palace in the Saxon times, and that the Chaworths and Plantagenets resided in their castle here, which was rebuilt by Sir Thomas Thynne, in the reign of James I. This manorial mansion, within a few years levelled with the ground, was a quadrangular structure, of very large dimensions, ornamented in the style of that day."—"Henry Duke of Lancaster resided here in the reign of Henry III. where his only son came to an unfortunate end, which determined the duke to leave the place; and his horse casting a shoe at his departure, the inhabitants nailed it to the church-door, where it remains as a memorial of that event, to this day."

LECHLADE,

Is a small market-town, situated on the north side of the river Isis, or Thames, 13 miles east from Cirencester, and 28 from Gloucester. The town derives its name from the small river Leche, which rises near North Leach, in this county, and empties itself into the Thames, a little below St. John's bridge, in this parish.

In a meadow near St. John's bridge, there was an hospital dedicated to St. John the Baptist, founded by Lady Isabella Ferrars, before the 30th of Henry III. but this house being decayed, the revenues were applied to the foundation of a chantry of three priests in the parish church.

The church is a handsome structure, the living a vicarage endowed. Lawrence Bathurst, Esq. in the year 1672, gave the great tythes to the vicarage for ever, which, with the house and premises, are said to be worth upwards of 400*l.* per annum.

The town is governed by a constable.

"In a meadow near Lechlade, was lately discovered a large subterraneous building, supposed to have been a Roman bath: it is near 50 feet in length,

40 in breadth, and four in height; and is supported by pillars of brick, and curiously inlaid in stones of variegated colours."

At Lechlade is the seat of — Fox, Esq. and to the right, the extensive plantations of the late Edward Loveden Loveden, Esq. of Buscot-park.

Four miles north-west from Lechlade, on the road to Gloucester, is

FAIRFORD,

A small market-town, situated at the foot of the Cotswold Hills, on a dry gravelly soil, which renders it remarkably healthy. The name of the town is derived from its old ford over the Coln (a little above its influx into the Thames), on which it has now two neat bridges. The parish is ten miles in compass, and distinguished by the Borough East and Mill Town End.

The manor of Fairford was held in the reign of Edward the Confessor, by Bithric, Earl of Gloucester, from whom it was taken by Matilda, the wife of William Duke of Normandy; after her death it reverted to the crown. In 1263, Richard de Clare, Earl of Gloucester and Hereford, obtained this lordship, with the privilege of a market and fairs. It then descended to the Beauchamps, and Nevilles, Earls of Warwick, and was one of the 114 manors which were fraudulently obtained from Anne, Countess of Warwick, by Henry VII. by a deed, dated December 13th, 1483. In 1498 it was again purchased from the crown, and is at present the property of John Raymond Barker, Esq. of Fairford-park.

Fairford derives its chief celebrity from its church, the windows of which contain the finest and largest collection of ancient painted glass in the kingdom. The church is dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and consists of a lofty nave, a chancel, and side aisles, with a tower rising from the centre, upon which a spire was probably intended to have been erected. The architecture of the interior is extremely fine, and

richly embellished; elegant fluted pillars divide the aisles from the nave, and a beautiful oak screen surrounds the chancel, ornamented with finely carved tabernacle-work. The pavement is chequered with blue and white stone, and has a remarkably neat appearance. The whole length of the church is 120 feet, its breadth 55.

The history of this elegant building is curious: John Tame, a merchant of a respectable family, settled in London, where several of them had served the office of sheriff, had the good fortune to take a vessel bound for Rome laden with painted glass, which he brought into England. Having determined to erect a building to receive this glass, he made choice of Fairford, where he had resided some time, for the purpose, and having purchased the manor of Henry VII. as above-mentioned, he commenced the present church in 1493; but dying soon afterwards, it was completed by his son, Sir Edmund Tame, Knt. The glass was disposed in 28 windows, with four or more compartments in each. The subjects are all from Scripture, representing the principal events related in the Old and New Testament, said, but with no degree of certainty, to have been designed by the famous Albert Durer. They are, however, most beautifully executed; so much so, that it is recorded of Vandyke, who inspected them, that he "often affirmed both to the king (Charles I.) and others, that many of the figures were so exquisitely well done, that they could not be exceeded by the best pencil." Mr. Dallaway, in his *Anecdotes of the Arts*, after objecting to the opinion of their being designed by Albert Durer, observes further, that "neither Luna Van Leyden, nor Golzius, could have been employed, as they both flourished after the church was finished; but for this, the extreme resemblance of the style to the well-known etchings of those masters, would induce us to attribute this beautiful work to them. May we be allowed a conjecture, that the designer was Francesco Francia, who was born at Bologna, in 1450,

and lived there till 1518, peculiarly eminent in the art of encaustic painting."

In several of the windows the figures are now much mutilated or displaced, which probably was the consequence of their removal during the Civil Wars, in order to preserve them from the undistinguishing fury of the parliamentary fanatics. To screen them from further injury, the Hon. Elizabeth Fermer, a daughter of Lord Leinster, gave 200*l.* towards placing a wire lattice against each window.

There are several curious monuments and inscriptions in Fairford church. The most interesting is that to the memory of John Tame, the beneficent founder of the edifice, and Alicia his wife. It is a table tomb, in the north aisle, composed of Italian marble. Upon the slab, on the top, are inlaid brass, displaying their effigies; beneath is the following legend:

For thus love pray for me,
With a pater noster et an ave.
I may not pray—now pray ye
That my payngs relested may be.

There have been many medals and urns dug up in Fairford, and in the fields adjoining there are several barrows, supposed to have been raised over some considerable persons, who had been slain here in battle; though it does not appear from history, that any battle was fought in or near this place.

Several charities are still subsisting in this town, for the relief of the poor, and a Free School has been some time established and supported by the produce of money bequeathed by the above-mentioned Hon. Elizabeth Fermer, and Mary Barker, spinster.

The weekly market is on Thursdays; the grant of which was procured by Andrew Barker, Esq. in 1672, as well as of two fairs yearly.

At QUEVINGTON, or Queenington, two miles north from Fairford, a small village, there was a preceptory of Knights Hospitallers of St. John of Jerusalem, to

whom this manor was given by Agnes de Lascio, or Lacy, and her daughter Sibylla, before the reign of King John. It was valued, upon the Dissolution, at 137*l.* 7*s.* 1*d.* per annum.

The architecture of Quevington Church is remarkable, displaying remains of great antiquity, though much altered by repairs and amendments during the last two centuries.

“The original round-headed windows may still be traced, though they are now either walled up, or changed into sharp-pointed or square ones. At the western extremity of the north and south walls, are two *door-ways* leading into the nave, which exhibit very rich specimens of Saxon architecture. From the situation of these door-ways, it seems probable that the nave of the church formerly extended further westward than it does at present, and perhaps terminated in a tower. The south door-way is five feet eleven inches in height, and nine feet eleven inches wide. The arch is semicircular, and ornamented with a variety of mouldings, and other decorations, wherein plainly appears a corruption of the *Roman* style. The interior part of the arch is ornamented with the zig-zag moulding, so constantly to be seen in works of this kind. Within this, and immediately over the door, are several figures rudely carved in bass relief, among which may be distinguished the Deity crowning the Virgin Mary, who holds a dove; and the angel, eagle, winged bull, and lion, the symbols of the Evangelists; the four last of which are accompanied with scrolls. On one side is the figure of a church, in which it may be remarked, that all the arches are circular; that it has a low spire covered with shingles; and a small tower on each side, terminating in a pinnacle; probably a representation of the original west front of this church.”

“The north door-way is ten feet eight inches in width, and thirteen feet in height. It has a great variety of ornaments, among which, the zig-zag, and lozenge mouldings, are the most conspicuous. Over

the door is the figure of our Saviour, carved in bass-relief, trampling on the Devil, bound hand and foot, and thrusting the cross into his mouth. There are also three figures in praying attitudes, one of whom appears just escaping from the jaws of a large serpent; over these is a figure of the sun. Above the door-way is the figure of a ram's head, much mutilated.

Mr. Lysons supposes, from the general style, that this church was erected soon after the Conquest, and probably by Walter de Laci, to whom the manor was given by the Conqueror, or by his son, Roger de Laci, who is said to have been in such favour with the Norman sovereign, that he bestowed on him 116 manors, of which twenty were in Gloucestershire.

*Journey from Cirencester to Moreton-in-the-Marsh ;
through North Leach and Stow-on-the-Wold.*

About four miles from Cirencester, on the right of our road, is BARNSLEY PARK, the residence of James Mulgrave, Esq. It is a sumptuous edifice, in the high Italian style, and was erected by H. Perrott, Esq. The saloon is decorated with paintings by the first masters, and the park is about three miles in circumference. The remains of the ancient manor-house, formerly the residence of the Bouchiers, stand near the middle of the village of Barnsley. The church, a small irregular building, is said to have been built by Sir Edmund Tame, Knight, of Fairford.

About two miles east of this seat is BIBURY, a small village, near the banks of the river Colne. This lordship was anciently the property of the see of Worcester; but was alienated with other lands in 1547, by Bishop Heath. Bibury is a peculiar possessing jurisdiction over Aldesworth, Barnsly, and Windsor: the lord of the manor, however, "claims a prescriptive right of appointing his own official and chancellor, who hath the recording of wills, and the granting of licences within the peculiar: nor doth the lord of the manor allow to the bishop the right of visitation.

The church is a handsome and spacious fabric in

the Norman style of architecture. There was formerly a curious colossal painting in *fresco* of St. Christopher, on the north wall of this church. The monkish legends attribute an extraordinary virtue to the image of this saint: the sight of which, they say, had sufficient efficacy to preserve the spectator from sudden or violent death.

At Bibury there are annual races, supported by subscription. There is a fine old mansion at the east of the village, belonging to Estcourt Creswell, Esq.—Two miles to the right, Williamstrop, the seat of Hicks Beach, Esq. and Hathcross-house, an old seat of the Dowager Lady Shaftesbury.

On the left of our road, at eight miles from Cirencester, is STOWELL, the seat of the late Lord Chedworth, situated upon a gentle eminence, within a park, containing about 100 acres beautifully planted. Stowell was purchased soon after the death of Lord Chedworth, by Sir W. Scott, now Lord Stowell.

One mile from hence is NORTH LEACH, a small market town, consisting chiefly of one long irregular street, situated in a bottom in the Cotswold Hills, not far from the source of the little river Lech, from which the town derives its name.

This was formerly a place of considerable importance as a clothing town, but it is now much declined, through the insufficiency of water for the use of the manufacture.

The church is a fine Gothic structure, dedicated to St. Peter and St. Paul, consisting of a nave, chancel, and side aisles, an elegant south porch, and a lofty tower on the west end, with open-worked battlements.

There is a good Free Grammar School in this town, founded by Hugh Westwold, Esq. in the first year of Queen Elizabeth's reign. It is endowed with the impropriated tythes of Chedworth, and a messuage and tenement, producing at this time a considerable income. Every fourth year an exhibitioner is sent from

this school to Pembroke College, Oxford, on the foundation of George Townsend, Esq.

The town is governed by a bailiff and two constables, chosen annually. The market-day is on Wednesday, at which a large quantity of corn is generally sold.

One of the county Penitentiary Bridewells is built contiguous to this town.

About a mile from North Leach is FAMINGTON, the seat of Edward Waller, Esq. and near it an ancient entrenchment called NORBURY: it is of an oblong form, containing an area of about 80 acres. The proximity of this camp to the Fosse-way determines it to have been a Roman work.

Three miles east from hence, is SHERBORNE, which, as its name implies, is a small village situated in a little valley or bourne. The church, a small edifice, was rebuilt by the late James Lenox Dutton, Esq. Near the church is Sherborne-house, or Dutton-park, the seat of Lord Sherborne, an extensive mansion, consisting of two quadrangles; the eastern and most ancient part is supposed to have been a seat of the Abbots of Winchcomb. Two pleasant parks belong to this house, each between three and four miles in circumference, and in one of them is a neat lodge.

GREAT BARRINGTON, a few miles from North Leach, is situated so near to the eastern verge of the county, that it includes a part of Oxfordshire within its limits, and a small tract belonging to Berkshire. The church appears to have been erected about the time of Henry III. and here are the effigies of captain Bray, with a sword girt on the *right* side. This peculiarity is said to have arisen from the captain having killed a man at Tilbury-camp in Queen Elizabeth's time, and in token of his sorrow, determined never more to use his right hand.

BARRINGTON HALL was built by the Lord Chancellor Talbot, in 1734. It is an elegant structure of the Doric Order, situated at a short distance from the

banks of the Windrush. It was lately occupied by — Dutton, Esq. The park is about three miles in circumference, and well planted.

Returning to our road, we pass through **BOURTON-ON-THE-WATER**, a large village, agreeably situated in a pleasant vale, upon the borders of a fine stream of water, over which is a handsome stone bridge, erected in 1756. The Roman road called the Fosse-way passes through this village, about a quarter of a mile to the east of it; and at nearly the same distance from that road is a quadrangular camp, where numerous Roman coins and other antiquities have been discovered. Among the latter was a curious gold seal, weighing nearly an ounce, having the representation of a Roman soldier, sitting on a tripod, with a spear in his left hand, and the Roman eagle at his feet. Various curious petrifications are frequently found in the stone quarries in this parish.

About three miles north-east from this village there is another entrenchment, called **ICOMB CAMP**, of a circular form, situated on a high conical barren hill; the bank which surrounded it is nearly destroyed by the plough.

STOW-ON-THE-WOLD,

Is a small market town, situated so high and so exposed to the winds, that it has been generally said to have but one element out of the four, viz. air; there being neither wood, common-field, or water belonging to the town.

This place is generally called in old records, **Stow St. Edward**, and had a grant from Henry VI. for a corporation. The town is at present governed by two bailiffs appointed annually. The church is a large well-built edifice, consisting of a nave, aisles, and chancel, and an embattled tower on the south side, eighty-one feet high.

There is very little trade or business carried on at this town, except shoe-making. The market is on Thursday.

At **Stow-on-the-Wold** is the seat of the Rev. Mr.

Hippisley. Two miles and a half south-east from Stow, is Daylesford-house, the seat of the late Warren Hastings, Esq.

Three miles north-east hence is ADELSTROP, formerly the seat of James Henry Leigh, Esq. The celebrated Mr. Repton had the direction of the plantations.

MORETON-HEN-MARSH,

Or Moreton-in-the-Marsh, an inconsiderable town, situated at the verge of the county, in the great road from Worcester to London. It has a very little trade of any kind; the poor are chiefly employed in spinning linen yarn.

The Roman Fosse ran through this town from the west to the north of England, and about two miles from it stands the *Four-shire stone*, where the four counties of Gloucester, Oxford, Warwick, and Worcester meet at a point.

About two miles west from hence is BOURTON-ON-THE-HILL, which is supposed to have been anciently a much larger place, as after rains the extensive foundations of houses are discernible. Near this village are the vestiges of an ancient camp or entrenchment.

Journey from Tetbury to Gloucester; through Minching-Hampton, Stroud, and Painswick.

The manor of AVENING, about three miles from Tetbury, was granted by William the Conqueror to the nunnery of Caen in Normandy; upon the suppression of alien priories it was granted to the nuns of Sion in Middlesex, to whom it belonged at the Dissolution. Henry VIII. in the year 1541, granted this lordship, with other estates, to Andrew Lord Wyndesor, and in the seventeenth century it became, by purchase, the property of Samuel Shepherd, Esq. in whose family it yet remains.

GATCOMB PARK, the seat of D. Ricardo, Esq. is partly in this parish, and partly in that of Minching-Hampton. The house is an elegant modern building.

Avening Church is an ancient fabric, built in the form of a cross, in the Norman style of architecture; a low tower rises from the intersection.

In a field near Gatcomb Park, is a large oval tumulus, now planted with firs, which had huge erect stones at each end of it, and arms within it. "On the summit is placed a huge fragment of rock, evidently a sepulchral monument, which has been known for ages by the name of the *Tingle Stone*. In the common field near it are two large stones set upright in the ground: one has its top broken off, the other is perfect, and stands nearly ten feet above the surface. Tradition assigns one, or both to the memory of *Long*, a Danish Chieftain, whence the name of *Long's Stone* or Pillar: near it two ancient rings have been found."

About three miles east from Avening is RODMARTON, a small village supposed to be of Roman origin, situated to the north of the Ikenild-street or way.

A tessellated pavement, and various Roman coins, and antiquities, were discovered here in 1636; which circumstance is recorded by an entry in the registry for that year, made in Latin by the Rev. Mr. Yate, the then rector. Thus translated: "This year, in a field called *Hocberry*, as the people were at plough, the ploughshare turned up some tiles, discovered a tessellated pavement, and there found also some brass coins of the Emperors Antoninus and Valentinian. The inhabitants told me that they had often times found brass and silver coins, but did not know what they were, and that they had heard their ancestors say, that Rodmarton was formerly removed from that place, to where it now stands, however, it appears that there were once a Roman station here."

At Haseldon, near Rodmarton, there was a Benedictine monastery, founded in 1140, by Reginald de Walerie. The Abbey barn is yet standing, with the following inscription within the east porch:

ANNO DNI. MCCXC: HENRICI ABBATIS XIX:

EVIT ISTVM CONSTRUCTVM.

MINCHING-HAMPTON,

About five miles from Tetbury, is said to derive the former part of its name from the old word *Monachyn*, a nun, on account of its being the property of the nuns of Caen in Normandy, to whom the manor was granted by William the Conqueror.

The church is an ancient building, founded in the reign of Henry III. by the nuns of Caen. It is built in the same form as that at Avening, the adjoining parish. In the north aisle are a great many inscriptions of benefactions; and in the south aisle is the statue of a man, lying cross-legged with a sword and shield by him, and his wife lying at his feet. These are said to be the effigies of Sir John de la Mere and his lady, who rebuilt the south transept in 1382.

Minching-Hampton is a small town, very pleasantly situated on a gradual declivity, with a south-east aspect. It has at present very little trade, but in the parish the clothing manufacture is carried on to a very great extent. The parish is large, being bounded on the north by the river Stroud, and on the south by the brook Avening, and has twelve hamlets belonging to it, with a common on the west side of the town, called *Amberley*, containing about 1000 acres. This extensive tract of ground was given for the use of the poor resident housekeepers of this parish in the reign of Henry VIII. by Dame Alicia Hampton. Upon this common is a very singular ancient encampment, supposed to have been made by the Danes, in the year 879, during the time they were at Cirencester.

At a place called St. Mary's Hill in this parish the famous Roger Bacon is said to have resided.

At Chalford, part of which village is in this parish, there is a remarkable petrifying spring.

Near Dunkirk in this parish there have been several fulling mills.

Chalford is a chapelry to Bisley, and situated on

the borders of the Frome, about two miles north-east from Minching-Hampton; it is remarkable for the beauty of the surrounding scenery, and the extent of its cloth manufacture, which has been carried on here for nearly three centuries.

Three miles farther east is SAPERTON, or SALPERTON, a small village upon the Frome, remarkable on account of the navigation tunnel which passes through Saperton-Hill, for the length of two miles and three furlongs, made to effect the junction of the Severn and the Thames, as already mentioned. This tunnel was begun at each end, and the mode of making it was by forming pits, the whole length at the distance of 220 or 230 yards, where eight gangs were kept at work: the labourers being paid from 4*l.* 14*s.* 6*d.* to 5*l.* 10*s.* per yard, out of which they found candles, gunpowder, and labour, both in arching and clearing the passage. The eight gangs, consisting of three miners, two fillers of waggons, two drivers, and one person to empty the waggon, cleared about twenty yards in a week; they worked with reliefs every eight hours, day and night, Sunday not excepted. The bricks were burnt on the spot, and the brick-work (twelve or eighteen inches thick) carried on as they proceeded. Below the base of the arch is a concave pavement of bricks, placed with the ends downward, and rammed very hard into the earth. The distance from the top of the arch to the surface of the hill, is from seventy to ninety yards. A small tunnel, four feet square, was first carried on to drain off the water from the larger one, and make the work easier. The soil is chiefly a blue marle, very hard, part rocky, and worked with gunpowder; there were few springs, but the damp was very great.

The first contractor received 7*l.* a yard for the tunnel, making the whole expence 30,800*l.* for 4400 yards.

A great many silver and brass Roman coins were found in this parish, near a place called *Lark's Bush*,

in the hamlet of Frampton, in the year 1759, by a waggon accidentally passing over the spot where they were buried, and breaking the urns that contained them.

About three miles from Minching-Hampton, on the left of our road, toward Stroud, is **WOODCHESTER**, a small village, rendered particularly remarkable on account of the many valuable Roman antiquities discovered here at different periods: these were first noticed in Bishop Gibson's additions to Camden's *Britannia*. He particularly mentions the great tessellated pavement discovered in the church-yard. The most perfect account of this and other antiquities found at Woodchester, was published by Samuel Lysons, Esq. F. A. S.

“The pavement appeared to have been a square of forty-eight feet ten inches. The general design is a circular area, twenty-five feet in diameter, inclosed within a square frame, consisting of twenty-four compartments, enriched with a great variety of guilloches, scrolls, frets, and other antique architectural ornaments, edged on the inside by a braided guilloche, and on the outside by a labyrinth fret, between a single fret, and a braided guilloche. The large circular compartment, or area, in the centre, is surrounded by a border, consisting of a Vitruvian scroll, edged on each side by a guilloche, and enriched with foliage, proceeding from a mask of Pan, having a beard of leaves. Immediately within this border, are representations of various beasts, originally twelve in number, on a white ground, with trees and flowers between them. The figures of a gryphon, a bear, a leopard, a stag, a tygress, a lion and lioness, are remaining. Those of a boar, a dog, and an elephant, and two others, unknown, but necessary to fill up the whole space, have been destroyed: most of these figures are about four feet in length.

“Within the circle occupied by the above mentioned figures of animals, is a smaller circle, separated

from the larger by a guilloche, and a border of acorns, in which various birds are represented; on a white ground in this circle is also the figure of a beast, which seems to have been designed for a fox. Within the circle of birds is an octagonal compartment, formed by a twisted guilloche; in the south side of which, and also of the border of acorns, are openings to admit the principal figure of the design, which is now much mutilated; though about the year 1722, as appears from a drawing then made, the head only was wanting: it represents Orpheus playing on the lyre, which he rests on his left knee. No part of the pavement, within the central octagon, exists at present; but it appears, from a memorandum on a drawing in possession of Richard Gough, Esq. that it contained figures of fish, and that about the centre was a star-like figure.

“ In the four angular spaces, between the great border and the great circular compartment, are the remains of female figures, two of which appear to have been in each of those spaces. The figures in the north-east angle, which are more perfect than any of the others, were evidently designed for naiads: one of them is represented in a recumbent posture, with her right hand over her head, and her left holding what undoubtedly was intended for an urn, though very rudely expressed; the other, supporting her head with her left hand, extends her right arm over an urn placed under her left arm.”

The colours of the tesserae are of a dark bluish, grey, red, white, and several shades of brown. The tesserae are mostly cubes of about half an inch, so that the whole pavement, when entire, could not have contained less than a million and a half of them.

In the years 1795 and 1796 the ground-plot of a very extensive Roman building was almost completely ascertained; part of it was in the church-yard, the residue in an adjoining orchard, and a field called the Parks. After a minute description of the various

remains, Mr. Lysons gives the following general description of this building:

“The houses of the Romans, when situated in the country, were frequently on one floor; and if they belonged to persons of consequence, were of very great extent, and enriched with the most magnificent and splendid decorations of every kind, though their external elevation was generally quite plain. They consisted of several large halls, porticoes, and open courts, running through the centre of the building, with suits of rooms branching out on either side.

“The remains of the building at Woodchester bear a striking resemblance to the plan of the Roman houses here described. They cannot be expected to agree in every particular, since the Romans frequently varied the form of their houses, to adapt them to the climate of the country in which they were built. Two great courts, and the great room, (which contained the principal pavement), run through the middle of the building, and have numerous rooms, of various dimensions, branching out from them. The first, or greater court, seems to answer to the *Peristylum* of Vitruvius, and was probably surrounded with a colonnade, though only loose fragments of columns were found, and none of their bases could be discovered so as to ascertain their situations. On the east and west sides of this court, were considerable ranges of building; in the eastern wing, the remains of the *Laconicum* are fully sufficient to indicate its original use. The room contiguous to it, on the eastern side, seems to have been an *Apodyterium*; and the one most distant, on the western side, a cold bath, as it was a very common practice among the Romans to use the cold bath immediately after the sudatory. Most of the rooms on the west side, it is very probable, were appropriated to the use of the servants, as they do not appear to have had tessellated pavements or other decorations. On the north side of the great court were three large rooms, which, from the fragments of statues, marbles, and columns

found there, appear to have been very highly decorated; and from their size, it is probable that they were either *Œci*, or *Exedraæ*.

“ The second or inner court, had galleries on the north, east, and west sides: that on the north side had an elegant tessellated pavement, and a fragment of one remains in that on the east side. These galleries were clearly what the Romans called *Cryptoporticus*, and the area inclosed within them might have been the *Atrium*. The room of which the great tessellated pavement remains, was no doubt, the *Cavædium Tetrastylon* of Vitruvius, and must have been extremely magnificent, as there is great reason to imagine, from the elegance of the floor, that the ceiling, and other parts of the room, were richly decorated. The walls on the west side of the *cavædium*, and *crypto-porticus*, are probably remains of the *Triclinia Hyberna*, and baths; as most of them have subterraneous flues, for the purpose of introducing heat; and their situation corresponds with that which Vitruvius assigns for those apartments. The apartments on the eastern side of the *crypto-porticus*, were probably warmed by the hypocaust; these occupy the situation assigned by Vitruvius for the *Triclinia* of the spring and autumn.

“ Besides these foundations, several fragments of tessellated pavements, and part of an hypocaust, were found within the church-yard, contiguous to the great pavement. The design of one of the pavements consists of five octagonal compartments, containing figures on a white ground, and in one of them the words *BONUM EVENTUM*; in another the letters *BIINII C.* which was all that remained of this compartment. Several pieces of stucco, painted in fresco, were found among the rubbish; and various flues, crossing each other at right angles, about four feet in depth, were discovered beneath the pavement.

“ The remains of the *Laconicum*, or sweating-room, were very considerable. The floor was composed of

a very hard cement, eight feet ten inches wide, nine feet ten inches in length, and eight inches thick; underneath the floor there were five flues, the depth of which was two feet two inches. Four of them were transverse, the other longitudinal. "The intermediate space between the transverse flues is filled up with a sort of ridge tiles, forming funnels, and placed between layers of brick and stone. The funnels were one with another eighteen inches long, and four and a half in diameter; some of them were formed by only one of the curved tiles. A row of perpendicular funnels extended along the north and south walls formed of brick tiles, with their edges turned up; the tops of these funnels were level with the surface of the cement floor, where the openings formed by them were three inches wide.

"An infinite variety of curious antiquities were found in the ruins of the buildings, consisting of pieces of red or coral pottery, parts of statues, coins, spurs, a dagger of iron, several brass-fibula, a small brass hatchet, &c. &c."

From the extent of the building, Mr. Lysons imagines it must have been a villa erected for the residence of the Roman Proprætor, or at least of the governor of this part of the province, and occasionally perhaps of the emperor himself.

About a mile from Woodchester, is **RODBOROUGH**, a small village, on the south side of the Stroud river. Richard Clutterbuck, a person of extraordinary endowments, was born here in the year 1638.

"At three years old he enjoyed a sufficient portion of sight to enable him to discern the difference between white and black; but at twelve he was totally blind, and so continued to his death; notwithstanding which, he walked up and down all the uneven ground in the neighbourhood (and no ground can be more uneven), without a guide. He could tell when an hour-glass was run out by his hearing, which was so acute as to discover the lowest whisper in an adjacent room. He was a curious mechanic,

and made oatmeal mills, and pepper mills, and could make a wheel for a cloth mill with great advantage. He took a watch in pieces and mended it, and made a handsome chain for his own watch. He made violins, bass-violos, and citterns, and a set of virginals with double jacks, and other improvements of his own invention; and played on each of those instruments. He taught music according to a scale of his own forming, and cut his notes upon pieces of wood."

In Rodborough parish, near Woodchester, is Hill-house, the seat of Sir George Onesiphorus Paul, Bart. by whose father, the late Sir O. Paul, created a Baronet in 1762, it was erected. It is situated on a fine eminence, and commands a beautiful prospect over the vale.

STROUD,

About four miles from Minching-Hampton, stands on a hill, at the foot of which runs the Stroudwater, which is very clear, and famous for dying scarlet broad cloth, and for all other grain colours; for which reason, the manufacture of white cloth was first planted here. All the surrounding vallies, or *bottoms*, exhibit a continued range of houses, or villages, inhabited by the manufacturers; some of whom are said to have made 3000 pieces of cloth annually.

The church consists of a nave, chancel, and side-aisles. It is ninety feet long, and forty feet broad. At the west end rises an high spire-steeple, besides a tower in the middle; so that it is built in the cathedral, or conventual style. It is a chapel of ease to Bisley. Here is a good Free School, and several Charity Schools. The market is on Friday.

About three miles east from Stroud is BISLEY, a small market-town, very little frequented. The parish is, however, very extensive and populous. The inhabitants are chiefly engaged in the broad-cloth manufacture.

The church is very large, and, on account of its elevated situation, may be seen for several miles

round: it is supposed to have been re-built in the reign of Edward IV.

In 1771, when this building was repaired and new paved, a fresco painting, about ten feet square, representing St. Michael subduing the angels, in very lively colours, was discovered against the north wall.

There is an ancient stone cross in the church-yard, which is said to have been erected over a deep well, into which a man falling, the church-yard was excommunicated for three years, and the inhabitants obliged to carry their dead to Bibury.

About three miles north-east from Bisley is MISERDEN, a small village, very beautifully situated. The manor, at the time of the Domesday Survey, was held by Hascoit Musard, who accompanied the Conqueror to England. It continued in his family till the year 1301. It became the property of the *Sandys* in 1608, who have possessed it ever since.

“The Church, dedicated to St. Andrew, consists of a nave, chancel and two cross aisles, of modern structure, with a low embattled tower at the west end. A chapel on the S. side of the chancel, appropriated to the family of SANDYS, is decorated with various military trophies and insignia, and contains a costly and magnificent marble tomb, with the recumbent effigies of SIR WILLIAM SANDYS, and his lady, in alabaster; their head supported by a cushion, and their feet resting on their separate crests (a Griffin and Falcon): the former is in complete armour, the latter in the most courtly and fashionable dress of the times. The sculpture is very accurately copied from two paintings of Sir William Sandys, and his lady, by Cornelius Jansen, which were sent to Italy for that purpose; and even the nicest parts of the female dress are exquisitely finished. On the sides of the tomb, decorated with escutcheons of arms, are the kneeling figures of their ten children. This superb monument cost 1000*l.* and is still in the highest state of preservation.” Sir William

Sandys died in 1640, and his lady about four years after.

The traveller of taste will be delighted with the natural beauties of MISERDEN PARK, "which is seven miles in circumference uneven in surface, clothed with fine beech-wood, and exhibiting many picturesque, sequestered, and romantic scenes. In the middle of a deep valley, which the park encloses, now overgrown with trees, and devoted to solitude, is a circular mound, surrounded by a moat, on which stood an ancient castle, founded by Ralph Musard, who was sheriff of this county from the 17th John to 9th Henry III. and great grandson to the original proprietor. The manorial house, situated on an eminence in the park, has the appearance of antiquity, and is reported to have been built with the materials of the old castle; but the period at which the one was destroyed, and the other rose from its ruins, cannot now be accurately ascertained. The rooms are capacious, but have suffered greatly from neglect. They contain a number of portraits of the Sandys family, of antiquity and merit."

During the Civil Wars in the reign of Charles I. this mansion was garrisoned by 300 soldiers for the Parliament.

PAINSWICK,

Is a small town, but an extensive and populous parish, in which the clothing business is carried on to a very great extent. The Jerningham family obtained possession of this manor early in the reign of Queen Elizabeth.

The church is a large Gothic building, consisting of a nave, chancel, and two side aisles, with a tower and spire at the west end, rising to the height of 174 feet. There is a handsome altar-piece in the church, erected in 1743.

It is worthy notice, that the Painswick ringers, who are all respectable tradesmen, pride themselves upon it, and are indeed ranked among the first ringers in the county. They have excellent bells.

A few years since, the man who tolled the great bell, when ringing a Bob Major, fell dead before they could complete the peal. Some others died a few days afterwards, from the excessive fatigue of that day's ringing. Painswick has a nominal market on Tuesday, and there is a quarry of very fine freestone in the vicinity.

About two miles and a half from Painswick is PRINKNASH, the seat of Thomas Bayley Howell, Esq., formerly the property of the Abbots of Gloucester, was purchased in the reign of James I. by Sir John Bridgman, Chief Justice of Gloucester. This mansion is situated in a pleasant park, on the acclivity of a hill.

Near Painswick is BUENOS AYRES, a handsome modern edifice, the seat of Benjamin Hyett, Esq. situated among beech groves, and enlivened by plantations.

*Journey from Gloucester to Monmouth; through
Great Dean.*

About three miles from Gloucester, is HIGHNAM-COURT, the seat of Sir Berkeley William Guise, Bart. The present mansion was built soon after the Civil Wars in the time of Oliver Cromwell, from a design made by Inigo Jones.

“ The apartments are embellished with many original family portraits, particularly of General Guise, in a Roman character, painted by Gervais Hamilton, at Rome. During the general's residence in Italy, he made his own sumptuous collection, which he afterwards bequeathed to Christ Church, Oxford. The family pictures were returned to the heir-at-law, and a very fine Madona by Titian as one of them. An original portrait of Cromwell, most probably by R. Walker, given by the Protector himself to Colonel Cook; and another of the patriot Algernon Sydney, by Lely. There is besides a half-length of Mrs. Jane Lane, who conducted the escape of Charles II. after the decisive battle at Worcester.

The park is extensive, and the ornamental grounds beautifully planted.

We shall here make an excursion from our road, in order to visit *Newent*, and the country adjacent.

NEWENT,

A small irregular town, nine miles from Gloucester, situated in the Forest of Dean, west of the Severn, on a river navigable for boats and barges. It is supposed to derive its name from a new inn erected for the accommodation of travellers passing to and from Wales, and there is an ancient mansion called the *Boot-Hall*, now almost in ruins, which is said to have been the inn.

King William the Conqueror gave the manor of Newent to the Abbot and Convent of Cormeille in Normandy, who sent over a Prior and some Benedictine Monks, and here was a cell subordinate to that foreign monastery.

This town was formerly much larger, and had the privileges of a borough: it was then, previous to the close of the seventeenth century, governed by a bailiff.

The church is a spacious fabric, containing several curious monuments, particularly one of great antiquity to the memory of a Baron Grandison.

The parish is twenty miles in compass, and includes several hamlets.

There have been some valuable coal-mines discovered in this parish, which promise to be of great advantage to the proprietors in particular, and the public in general, as an act of parliament was some time since obtained for making a navigable canal from hence to Hereford. The beds of coal appear to be of great magnitude, and the ore of excellent quality.

CORSE, a small village, three miles east from Newent, and about eight miles from Gloucester, is beautifully situated, and great improvements have been lately made in this parish, by the inclosure of 1850

acres of land, formerly waste, and called Corse-Lawn. CORSE-COURT is the seat of Thomas Dowdeswell, Esq.

In the parish of *Pauntley*, a village on the borders of the county next Worcestershire, and in the neighbourhood, “a custom, intended to prevent the smut in wheat, in some respect resembling the Scotch *Beltein*, prevails. On the eve of Twelfth Day all the servants of every particular farmer assemble together in one of the fields that has been sown with wheat. At the end of twelve lands they make twelve fires in a row, with straw; around one of which, made larger than the rest, they drink a cheerful glass of cyder to their master’s health and success to the future harvest; then returning home, they feast on cakes made of carraways, &c. soaked in cyder, which they claim as a reward for their past labours in sowing the grain.”

BROMESBERROW PLACE, near Pauntley, is the seat of Walter Honeywood Yate, Esq. whose family was settled at Arlington, in this county, in the time of King John. The mansion is an elegant, modern building.

DYMOCK, about four miles north from Newent, was formerly a place of much greater extent and consequence than it is at present. In the reign of Henry III. it had the privilege of a market and fairs, but these have been long disused.

The celebrated John Kyrle, better known, perhaps, by the appellation of the Man of Ross, was born at WHITE HOUSE, in Dymock parish, in the year 1637, and died in 1724, at Ross, in Herefordshire.

Returning to our road towards Great Dean, we pass through the village of *Longhope*, where we found in the church-yard an inscription recording the burial place of *Thomas Bright*, who died in the year 1708, at the great age of 124.

GREAT DEAN,

Or Dean Michel, is a small ill-built town, formerly

a staple for wool, but at present much decayed. It is situated on the borders of the county next Herefordshire, about twelve miles from Gloucester. It is the principal town in the Forest, otherwise called the Forest of Dean, and is supposed to derive its name from the Saxon word *Dene*, referring to its situation in a deep dell, and *Micl* signifying *Great*, to distinguish this place from Little Dean, a neighbouring village.

The town consists chiefly of one street. "The church, dedicated to St. Michael, is nearly quadrangular, and consists of a nave, a chancel, two north aisles, and one south aisle, with a tower adjoining, terminated by a well-proportioned octagonal spire, 156 feet high from the foundation. The aisles appear to have been built at different periods, as the forms of the arches are various: and the whole fabric underwent considerable reparations about 100 years ago. The roof is of oak timber, studded with roses, and other devices, finely carved. In the east window of the further north aisle, are some perfect remains of painted glass, with which the church was profusely decorated: in the higher compartments is an assemblage of female figures, with musical instruments; and dispersed in other panes, the heads of nobles and ecclesiastics of either sex, delicately wrought."

The church contains several curious monuments.

In the parish of STANTON, about four miles before we reach Monmouth, is the *Kymin*, a considerable eminence, upon the summit of which a NAVAL TEMPLE has been erected, to commemorate the victories of the English on the seas, particularly those during the last war.

This edifice is built on the ridge of a rock, and forms a square of thirteen feet. The frieze continued round it is ornamented with medallions of the most eminent British Admirals, with emblematical and appropriate devices.

In the parish of Stanton also, there is a rude fragment of silicious grit, called the *Buckstone*, the gene-

ral form of which resembles an irregular square pyramid inverted, and standing on its point or apex. Its circumference at top is more than fifty-six feet, and the point it rests upon about three. Mr. King considered it as a logan, or rocking-stone.

About two miles and a half from Stanton, on the road to Chepstow, is **NEWLAND**, a pleasant village, built in the form of an irregular square round the church, inhabited by several respectable families.—The church is a handsome spacious fabric, with a tower at the west end, ornamented with pinnacles and open-worked battlements.

On the west side of the church-yard, is the **Grammar-School**, founded in 1632 by Edward Bell, gent. with a house and endowment for a master. There is also an **Alms-house**, founded by the same gentleman, for eight poor people.

Clearwell, in Newland parish, is the seat of Thomas Wyndham, Esq. It is a handsome structure, situated in a pleasant park.

About a mile north-west from Newland was **HIGH-MEADOW**, the seat of Lord Viscount Gage.—A mile and a half eastward from hence is

COLEFORD,

A small market town, situated in the parish of Newland, to which it is a chapelry. The market day is on Friday, for which a charter was obtained in the reign of James I. The original market-house was destroyed during the Civil Wars in the reign of Charles I. and was not rebuilt until after the Restoration; Charles II. giving 40*l.* towards the expences. The chapel was also destroyed, and rebuilt in the time of Queen Anne, who contributed 300*l.*

At **LIDBROOK** and **REDBROOK**, three miles from Coleford, there are very extensive iron forges, and a furnace, and at Redbrook there is also an iron rolling-mill.

About four miles south from Coleford, on the road to Chepstow, is the village of **St. BRIAVELS**, which

is also the name of a castle and the hundred. This place was of greater extent formerly than at present, and had the privileges of a borough and market town. The inhabitants at present possess none of these ancient immunities, except the right of common in a wood called *Hudnells* and its purlieus, which include a tract of land on the banks of the Wye, about six miles long and one broad; and of cutting wood but not timber in other parts of the Forest. In the exercise of these rights the inhabitants of the parish obtain materials for making vast numbers of hoops, poles, &c. which are sent to Bristol; large quantities of hoops are also sent to the West India Islands.

The Castle of St. Briavels was erected in the reign of Henry I. by Melo Fitz Walter, Earl of Hereford, to check the incursions of the Welsh. It passed from that family by forfeiture to the crown, by whom its constables have ever since been appointed, and retain their situations during royal pleasure. The site of the castle is surrounded by a moat, and comprehends an extent of about 500 yards. The north-west front, the part that longest escaped the ravages of time, was composed of two circular towers, three stories high, separated by a narrow elliptical gateway; within the towers were several hexagonal apartments, having walls eight feet thick. One of these was used as a prison for the hundred. In the interior were two gateways, in dimensions similar to the former, and on the right the remains of an apartment forty feet by twenty, with large pointed windows. In the centre was a low building, a sort of anti-chamber to that room. On the highest rampart, stood the Keep, consisting of a large square tower more than 100 feet high, flanked by two smaller ones, about half that height; but of this the greater part fell in 1754, and the remainder just twenty years afterwards: large masses of the ruins still remain; and the surrounding scenery is beautifully varied, and romantic in the highest degree.

The church of St. Briavels is an ancient structure in the form of a cross, with two narrow aisles separated from the nave by rows of pillars, some of them of early Norman architecture. In the chancel is a mural monument to the memory of William Warren, Esq. and Mariana his wife, who died in the reign of Queen Elizabeth.

The descent from St. Briavels church to Bixwear, near which is the seat of General Rooke, is almost covered with blocks of limestone, similar to the grey-stone of St Vincent's Rocks.

Journey from Chepstow to Gloucester, through Newnham.

In the parish of Tydenham, one mile and a half from Chepstow, at a point of land called *Beachley*, is the ferry over the Severn, called the *Aust*, or Old Passage. This place was formerly called *Aust Clieve*, from the high cliff that reaches upwards of a mile along the shore. It is now generally called the *Old Passage*, to distinguish it from another called the New Passage, about two miles and a half lower down.

As the crossing of either depends on the winds, it is necessary to observe, that they distinguish but two for passing, viz. winds below, and winds above. Winds below are when it blows up the river, south or west; with these the passage may be crossed, during the ebb, or going out of the tide, which is seven hours. Winds above are, when it blows down the river, northerly or easterly; with these there are five hours for passing on the flood, or coming in of the tide. According to Camden, King Edward the Elder passed over from hence to Beachley, to hold a conference with Llewellyn, Prince of Wales, a circumstance which is also related by Walter Mapeus. Offa's Dyke terminates here, and may be clearly traced crossing the road at Buttington Tump. In the Civil Wars this spot was considered of such importance, that Prince Rupert detached 500 horse and foot to occupy it, but was prevented by the Parliamentary

Governor, Massie. A serious affair afterwards occurred here, between the latter and Sir John Wyntour, who being defeated, was forced down a cliff into the river, since called "Wyntour's Leap," but a boat being at hand, he was not drowned. Extensive earth-works are still remaining, probably of British origin, and constructed to defend the passage of the Severn.

That this was long looked upon as a place of consequence, appears from the circumstance of Edward the Elder's crossing here, as before hinted. Edward, says an ancient writer, lay at Aust Clieve, on the other side the water, and Leolin Prince of Wales at Bethersey (Beachley). The latter was summoned to go across the Severn to a conference with the king, which he refused to do; upon which Edward passed over to Leolin, who on seeing the king in the boat threw his royal robes on the ground, which he had prepared to sit in judgment with, and leaping breast-high into the water, said, "Most wise king, your humility has conquered my pride, and your wisdom triumphed over my folly; mount upon that neck which I have so foolishly exalted against you, so shall you enter into that country which your goodness has this day made your own." Then taking him upon his shoulders, he made him sit upon his robes, and joining hands, did him homage.

Alvington, or Avention, as it is now called, has been supposed the *Abone* of the Romans, but this conjecture has not been supported.

Two miles hence is LYDNEY, formerly a market-town. Here, on two hills of considerable elevation, are two camps or forts, overlooking the river Severn. Near the largest of these, the remains of a Roman bath, of an oval form, has been discovered, with foundations of buildings, tessellated pavements, coins, &c.

Lydney Park is now the seat of the Right Hon. Charles Bathurst.

The old mansion called the White Cross, was built by Sir William Wyntour, who was Vice-Admiral of England, under Queen Elizabeth, and fortified by

Sir John Wyntour, for the king, during the Civil Wars. Sir John, when the king's cause became desperate, deserted and fired this house, which was afterwards repaired by B. Bathurst Esq.

NEWNHAM,

Is a small town, pleasantly situated on the banks of the Severn, which is here nearly a mile in width, at high-water. This place was anciently one of the five boroughs of the county, and was then governed by a mayor and burgesses; at present by two beams or constables.

A sword of state, the gift of King John, is still preserved in testimony of former greatness: it is of polished steel, highly ornamented, and of exquisite workmanship.

The *Quay* was built about sixty years ago by one of the Pyrke family. It will admit vessels of 150 tons burthen. Here is a very safe ferry over the Severn to Arlingham, on the opposite side.

The market day is on Friday.

The inhabitants, in number about 1000, have been principally employed in a verdigrease manufactory, and ship-building, which is carried on to a small extent.

Newnham, in the Norman times, seems to have been fortified to repress the incursions of the Welsh; but the circumvallation at the back of the town must be referred to the Civil Wars, when Sir John Wyntour's soldiers were obliged to surrender here.

The Severn at high water is nearly a mile wide here, and in this part of the county, the impetuous tide called the *Bore*, or *Hygre*, begins to form at the approach of the vernal and autumnal equinoxes, and continues till those seasons are sometime past. Such is the force of the current, that it sometimes runs with uncommon violence for twenty or thirty miles up the country, inundating the low lands to a vast extent; and the rapidity is often so great, that it rises several feet in a minute, foaming and raging like a hideous

whirlpool. Sea-walls have been constructed in several places to restrain its fury, but without effect. It has sometimes overflowed these artificial barriers, more than three feet perpendicular. Its most familiar name, the *Bore*, some say is derived from the British word, *Búr*, which means indignation, violence, or tumult; but most likely from the Norman *Eau-guerre*, or *water-war*. It is comprehended in that part of the Severn between the parishes of Westbury and Awre, on the west; and Frithern and Framilode on the mouth of the Stroud river, on the east. From a point in the parish of Westbury, the river takes a course nearly resembling a horse-shoe, almost insulating the parish of Arlington, the greater part of which is one continued marsh, secured by sea-walls. There can be no doubt that the Severn has once flowed at the foot of what is called Barrow-hill, an eminence from which thirty-six churches may be discerned on a clear day. Between Breame-pill and the opposite shore, the river is two miles wide: here, in the centre of it, the large sand-bank is called the *Noose*. The difficulty of the passage for vessels, has probably been increased by embankments injudiciously made.

At AYLESFORD, in this parish, there are extensive forges for working bar iron and iron wire.

Little Dean is a very inconsiderable town, on the verge of the Forest of Dean; it formerly had a market, and a curious *Market Cross* is standing in the middle of the town: round the shaft of the cross is a low octangular roof; the upper part is terminated by a carved pinnacle, with small niches and statues.

The principal business of this place is the manufacture of nails, which are esteemed to be better made than at any other place in the kingdom.

The church is a spacious and handsome structure, containing some fragments of finely painted glass.

The Forest of Dean is divided into six walks, known by the respective lodges built for so many keepers, each of which, besides a salary of 15*l.* per

annum, paid out of the Exchequer, has an inclosure of ground for his further encouragement: the names of the lodges are,

1. The King's Lodge, usually called the Speech House, between King's Cottell, and Daniel's Moor.
2. York Lodge, at the upper end of Lumbard's Marsh.
3. Worcester Lodge, upon Winsbury Hill.
4. Dunby Lodge, upon the old Barley Hill, near Lidney.
5. Herbert Lodge, upon Ruer Dean Hill.
6. Latmore Lodge, upon Danemean Hill, not far from the Beacon.

There are also four verdurers of the Forest, elected by the freeholders of the county, by virtue of the king's writ, directed to the high sheriff for that purpose; and in the time of King Canute their fee was yearly of the king's allowance, two horses, one of which was saddled, one sword, five javelins, one spear, one shield, and 10*l.* in money.

The Gaveller is an officer appointed by the constable of the castle. This officer receives by way of perquisite or fee, a small sum of the miners, called the king's dues, and give some directions concerning mining.

The first officer of this description was in 1660, "he takes his name from Gabel, the Anglo-Saxon word for tribute; but he more likely derives it from the French word Gabelle, a custom: hence Gabellier, or Gavel-ler; Gabellier meaning the receiver of such custom, or custom-house officer."

There are three courts, common to all forests.

1. The Court of Attachment, held once in forty days, which receives the attachment of *Vert and Venison*, taken by the rest of the officers, and enrol them for presentment at the next justice seat for punishment.
2. The Court of Swanimote, held before the verdurers as judges, thrice in the year. This court can both

enquire and convict, but cannot give judgment. These two courts were anciently held at the Speech House before mentioned.

3. The Justice Seat Court, which is the highest, cannot be kept oftener than every third year. It is held before the Chief Justice in Eyre, and has jurisdiction to enquire, hear and determine, all the trespasses within the Forest; and all claims of franchises, privileges, and liberties, relative thereto: and before its being held the regards must go through and visit the whole Forest, in order to present all kinds of trespasses.

Besides these three courts, the hundred of St. Briavels, being in the crown, retains the privileges of a Court-Leet, which is held at the Castle, where there are also two other courts held of peculiar natures. First, the Court of Record, held for the castle, manor, and hundred of St. Briavels, before the constable or his deputy, and the suitors of the manor, for trying all personal actions, of whatever value, arising within the hundred, and levying fines of lands in the same. All processes are issued in the name of the constable or his deputy.

The other is the Mine-Law-Court, for trying all causes between the miners, &c. concerning the mines. It is to be held before the constable, as steward of the court, or his deputy; besides whom none are to be present but the gaveller, castle-clerk, and free-miners, who must be natives of the hundred of St. Briavels, and have worked in some of the mines at least one year and a day.

The parties and witnesses are sworn upon a Bible, into which a piece of holly stick is put; and are obliged to wear the hoof, or working cap, on their heads during examination. Causes tried in this court are not determined by the Forest Laws, or by any written laws of the realm, but by such as are peculiar to itself. The miners execute the legislative power, and make new laws for their convenience as often as they see necessary.

The privileges of the Forest are very extensive: the free miners claim a right, by prescription, of dragging iron ore and coal in the Forest, and of carrying their coal work begun there, into the inclosed lands adjoining. Also to cut timber out of the Forest, necessary to carry on their works, as well on the lands of private persons as in the king's soil.

The Forest of Dean contains at present nearly 50,000 acres, and extends in length twenty miles, in width about ten. The wood, though very much decreased, still presents a thick and picturesque appearance, growing in the form of an amphitheatre on the sides of the surrounding hills.—The great road through the Forest is partly of Roman foundation.

In crossing the Forest from Newnham, the wildness of the scenery, sometimes immersed in a depth of shade, and sometimes assuming the most dreary aspect, from the lollows of deserted mines, the heaps of rubbish that have been raised from them, and the occasional thickness of the underwood, excite ideas of melancholy seclusion; though the attention is occasionally relieved by the recurrence of mines and pits still at work.

A brighter scene, however, presents itself in the view of *English Bicknor*, so called because another *Bicknor* stands on the opposite, formerly called the Welsh side of the river Wye. The soil here is limestone, accompanied by coal and iron, and several mines of each are worked in the neighbourhood. The meadows towards the river are very fruitful, and the excellent orchards of styre, and other fruits, together with the lively trait which the water always bestows, gives a degree of brilliant richness to this little spot. The church stands within the area of an ancient fortification, and beyond it is a bold jutting promontory, round which the river winds in a tortuous stream. By water the passage is nearly three miles, though it is but a few hundred yards across the promontory in a right line. Part of this eminence was planted by

George Wyrhale, Esq. who has an occasional residence at BICKNOR COURT.

The office of Chief Forester in Fee, is held by the Wyndham family, in right of inheritance. He has no salary, but claims to be entitled to the left shoulder of all bucks and does killed within the Forest; also ten fee bucks, and ten fee does annually, thence to be taken and killed according to his own will, with unlimited right of hunting, hawking, and fishing, within the Forest. As Bow-bearer, he is to attend the King with a bow and arrow, and six stout bowmen clothed in green, whenever His Majesty hunts within the Forest.

At FLAXLEY, a small village two miles from Little Dean, Roger, the second son of the Earl of Hereford, after the Conquest, built an abbey in the time of King Stephen, for Cistercian monks, and dedicated it to the Virgin Mary. Henry II. was a great benefactor to this abbey, granting to it several neighbouring manors, together with an iron forge in the Forest of Dean, and two oaks weekly to supply it with fuel. This latter grant was afterwards revoked by Henry III. and a wood, since called *Abbot's Wood*, given in lieu of the former privilege.

“ The manufactory is still carried on, and the iron is esteemed particularly good; but its goodness does not arise from any extraordinary qualities of the ore, but from the practice of the working of the furnace and forges with charcoal wood, without any mixture of pit-coal. The quantity of charcoal required is so considerable, that the furnace cannot be kept in blow more than nine months successively. Lancashire ore, which is brought to Newnham by sea, furnishes the principal supply: a ton of it in the furnace requires fifteen or sixteen sacks of charcoal. When the furnace is at work, about twenty tons a week are reduced to pig-iron: in this state it is carried to the forges, where about eight tons a week are hammered out into bars, ploughshares, &c. ready for the smith. The wheels which work the bellows and hammers, are

turned by a powerful stream of water, which rises at *St. Anthony's Well*, and after passing the works, falls into a large bason, and at length empties itself into the Severn near Newnham."

At the Suppression it had nine monks in it, whose yearly revenues were rated at 112*l.* 9*s.* 1*d.*

The site of this abbey was granted in 1545, to Sir Anthony Kingston. The estate now belongs to Sir Thomas Crawley Bowey, Bart.

At Westbury, eight miles from Gloucester, there are two churches in one church-yard.

Journey from Gloucester to Bath, through Wotton-under-Edge.

At HARESFIELD, about six miles from Gloucester, the church contains three ancient recumbent figures, under arcades, of a croisader, and two females, supposed to belong to the family of the De Bohuns, Earls of Hereford, who possessed a castle at Harsecomb, a tything in this parish.

A high ridge of hills, by which Haresfield is sheltered on the east, called *Broad Ridge*, or Broad Barrow Green, is "the site of a very singular camp, the first division of which is made by a single vallum, 15 feet high, and 600 yards in length from one side of the hill to the other. It is thought to have been a British station after the Roman invasion. The very bold promontory called the *Beacon Hill*, inclosed by a transverse vallatum 50 feet deep, and containing 15 acres, is connected with the former; but in the parish of Standish, a spot resembling a Prætorium is still apparent, on which, probably, the beacon was afterwards placed."

About four miles from hence is KING'S STANLEY, or Stanley Regis, at present a large village, supposed to have been anciently the residence of one of the Mercian kings.

"At King's Stanley," says Mr. Gough, "is a Roman camp, two miles from which were lately found eight Roman altars uninscribed; but having on one

face a Roman soldier, and on one of them the genius with a cornucopia, and a patera on an altar; also a large brass of Alexander Severus, reverse a soldier with a spear and branch. TR. P. VI. COS. III."

STANLEY ST. LEONARD is a small clothing town, that formerly had a market, and was of some consequence; but in the year 1686 it became so reduced by a dreadful fire, that it has never recovered.

A priory of Benedictines, dedicated to St. Leonard, was founded here by Roger de Berkeley, in the year 1146, of which there are still some small remains.

The church tower is of a singular construction, having a double wall, with a passage and recesses between them.

About a mile and a half west from Stanley St. Leonard, is FROWCESTER, another small village, most agreeably situated at the foot of a high hill, which shelters it from the east winds, and from its summit commands a very extensive prospect.

"On the left is Camley Pike, of a volcanic shape, and the bold projecting head of Stinchcombe; in the foreground, two expanded reaches of the Severn. The intermediate distances between the forest hills, the blue mountains of Malvern, and the turrets of Gloucester, are filled up with cultivated fields, village churches, and buildings of various descriptions, among which the castle and tower of Berkeley, with their lofty battlements, are easily distinguished."

Three miles from the village of Cambridge is

DURSLEY,

A considerable clothing town, and a place of great antiquity, being one of the five boroughs returned by the sheriff of the county in the reign of Edward I. but it has long lost the privilege of sending members to parliament. The municipal government of the town is vested in a bailiff, chosen annually. The town consists of two narrow streets, forming some-

thing like the letter T, with a hamlet, without the borough, containing more houses than either of them.

The market-house is a handsome building of free-stone, erected in the year 1738.

The church is an elegant structure, consisting of a spacious nave, side aisles, and chancel, with a tower of modern Gothic at the west end.

“ The dividing arches (of the interior) are light ; carved on the timber frame roof are the arms of Berkeley and Fitzalan, and the device of Thomas Tanner, who in the reign of Henry VI. erected a chapel at the end of the south aisle, for the reception of a chantry, in which is the figure of a skeleton, beneath a canopy, intended as a memorial of him ; it is probable that he contributed to the external embellishment of the whole south side of the church, which is in the best style of that age. The old spire fell in 1699, while the bells were ringing, by which accident several lives were lost ; it was re-built and finished in 1700, at the expence of 1000*l*. The chancel was likewise re-erected in 1738, and neatly fitted up.

“ On the south-east side of the church-yard, some springs arise out of the ground, like boiling water, in so copious a manner, as to drive a fulling mill, at about a hundred yards distance below, and are never known to diminish in quantity. At their rise they cover a fine level gravelly bottom, for about 15 feet square, with nearly two feet of water, wherefore the inhabitants call it Broad Well ; but further back than the time of Henry III. it was called *Ewelme*. This is a Saxon word, signifying the head of a spring ; and it is conjectured that this remarkable water gave name to the town ; as in British, *Dwr*, is water ; and *Ley*, *Lege*, *Lega*, are common appellations for pasture grounds, particularly in elevated situations.”

Contiguous to the town are the remains of a rock of *Towfe*, or puff stone, remarkable for its extreme durability, and for being so easily cut when first got

up. The fossil productions of this and the adjacent parishes are very numerous.

The celebrated Edward Fox, Bishop of Hereford, “the principal pillar of the Reformation, as to the politic and prudential part thereof,” was a native of Dursley.

STOUTS HILL, in Uley parish, about three miles from Dursley, is the seat of Lloyd Baker, Esq. a handsome modern building with octagonal projections, turretted, and ornamented in the pointed style. It commands a fine view of the village of Uley.

At KYNLEY, or Kinline, in the parish of Nymphsfield, three miles east of Dursley, there was a *Priory*, founded before the Conquest, and endowed with the manor. It was dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and afterwards became a college, or free chapel of secular priests. The priory-house still remains.

Two miles south-east from Nymphsfield, is HORSLEY, or Horkesley, formerly a market town, where a priory was founded for Benedictine Monks, by Roger Montgomery, Earl of Shrewsbury, a cell to the Abbey of St. Martin, at Truand, in Normandy, and afterwards made subject to Bruton, in Somersetshire, with which it was granted by Edward VI. to Sir Walter Denys, from whom it devolved to Henry Willis Stephens, Esq. The manor-house, situated at Chavenhage, was erected by Robert Stephens, in the reign of Queen Elizabeth; some of the painted windows of the priory were built up in this edifice. The only visible remains of the monastic building at Horsley, is an ancient gateway standing near the church.

WOTTON-UNDER-EDGE,

Is a populous well-built town, consisting of two narrow parallel streets, agreeably situated at the foot of a ridge of woody hills, four miles from Dursley. The cloth manufactory is carried on to a very considerable extent in this town and neighbourhood, one house alone has employed near 4000 persons.

The church is a handsome spacious fabric, containing many curious monuments. Here are two Free-Schools liberally endowed. The market is on Friday. Hugh Perry, Esq. an alderman of London, in 1632, not only brought water to this town at his own charge, but gave 1000*l.* to purchase lands for erecting and endowing an alms-house for six poor men and six women, and for establishing a weekly lecture in the church. The government is vested in a Mayor and twelve Aldermen, and the Petty Sessions for the hundred are held here.

ALDERLEY, near Wotton-under-Edge, is a parish only five miles in compass, lying on the side of a hill, between two rivulets, which join and fall into the Avon. The parish church is a handsome structure, with a tower that has curious pinnacles, visible at a considerable distance. The celebrated Sir Matthew Hale was a native of this village, and lies buried in the church.

From Alderley we proceed on our journey through Chipping Sodbury, on the road which we have already described, until we reach

MARSHFIELD,

A small market town, on the borders of the county, next Somersetshire and Wiltshire. It consists chiefly of one street of old buildings, mostly of stone, nearly a mile long, and is governed by a bailiff. It is a clothing town, and there is also a considerable quantity of malt made here, for the consumption of Bath and Bristol. There is a good charity school at this place, and a well-endowed alms-house for eight poor people.

The church is a spacious and handsome fabric. Marshfield is about six miles from Bath, from Bristol twelve, and from Gloucester thirty-six. The parish is sixteen miles in compass.

At a place called the Rocks, near the town, are three shire stones, to mark the limits of the counties of Gloucester, Wilts and Somerset, where they meet in a point.

Three miles north-west from Marshfield, in the road from Bath to Gloucester, is DIRHAM, where a bloody battle was fought between the Britons and the Saxons, in which the Britons were defeated, and three of their kings killed.

Dirham Park is now the seat of Mrs. Blathwayte, William Blathwayte, Esq. the lord of the manor, built a very handsome mansion here, the principal front of which is 130 feet in length. The park contained nearly 500 acres.

*Journey from Gloucester to Campden, through
Cheltenham.*

Between Gloucester and Cheltenham, at Piff's Elm Turnpike (where there is a beautiful elm tree, worthy of notice), to the right is a field, in Boddington Manor Farm, where was a remarkable large oak, which for several centuries was celebrated by historians, and attracted the attention of travellers; but on the evening of the 16th of November, 1790, it was maliciously set on fire, and totally consumed. Its dimensions were as follows:

The length 90 feet.

The circumference of the bottom .. 56

The smallest part of the trunk 34

Its age, on record, above 500 years.

In the hamlet of BARROW, in Boddington parish, is a little conical hill, which, from its resemblance to a tumulus, gave name to the hamlet. From the top of this hill, in a clear day, is a distinct view of thirty-six parish churches.

CHELTENHAM,

So long and justly celebrated as a watering-place, is about ninety-five miles from London, pleasantly situated in the rich and beautiful Vale of Gloucester. Sheltered by hills, it enjoys a fine mild air. It is nine miles and a half from Gloucester, sixteen from Cirencester, and nine from Tewkesbury. The town, chiefly built of brick, has been almost renewed with

stone erections during the last thirty-five years. Cambray-street and Cambray-square, are handsome specimens of this kind. One side of the latter is occupied by the new theatre, with a small piazza in front, and on the other are two beautiful houses belonging to Mr. King, Master of the Ceremonies. Here also is Lady Mary Lindsay's singular but elegant cottage. The new Crescent stands in what was called Church Meadow. Forty years ago the town contained not more than thirty lodging houses; at present they are nearly 400 in number; the houses also are between two and 3000, and the population upwards of 9000. Since 1811, the population of Cheltenham has increased more than two-thirds. At that time the only place of worship was the church; but at present there are no less than six chapels, and a new church is building, which will be very handsome; this is situated at the north end of Portland-street. A large market-house is also erecting; the footway to which is from the High-street, opposite the church-yard.

The ground on which the old market was, is to be disposed of for building.

The church, which stands in the centre of the town, is a stately old building, in the form of a cross, adorned with a lofty and elegant spire, which contains eight bells. Until the year 1817 it was generally understood that the Curacy could not be enjoyed by any but a Welshman by birth, a Bachelor, and of Jesus College, Oxford; but at that period the Rev. Charles Jervis, a married man, and private Chaplain to the Duke of Cambridge, purchased the perpetual Curacy of the Church, and all the benefits to be derived therefrom.

Unfortunately the foot-path to the Spa lies through the church-yard, but is rendered as cheerful and pleasant as possible, by a double row of lime-trees which surround and cross it. Still nothing can do away the impression which the valetudinarian indulges as he passes through it.

The pump, that used to be under a dome that stands

in the centre of the walk, has since been removed to a room on the left, formerly the breakfasting-room. The buildings on the right, now a fancy picture-shop and a dwelling-house, was a library and offices belonging to the Spa. Round these buildings, and for several hundred feet to the southward, is a shrubbery upon a gentle ascent, and a walk round it with seats; at the end of which, on the right, is a broad walk leading to the walks of Thompson's Montpelier Pump-room, erected since the Original Spa, by H. Thompson, Esq. who sunk several wells, and erected a building for the manufacture of Cheltenham-salts, on the spot; adjoining to which he has lately added some others for fresh and salt-water bathing. Since the erection of these rooms, a company have built another room at a very great expence, called the Sherborne Wells, which is certainly the best of the three, being a light and handsome structure. On the top is a piece of sculpture representing Hygeia, with a viper entwined round her body, and feeding from her hand. The road to this is from the High-street up the Colonnade. Over some very handsome gravel-walks, you pass the river about half way between the High-street and the wells, which is about a quarter of a mile. The total length of the walk, is about a mile in a strait line, the pump-room being the termination. This is now the principal walk to the other wells; there are also branch walks from the Sherborne rooms into the walks of the other wells. Thompson's have been the most frequented ever since their erection. The situation is commanding, and the land about it is laid out with excellent gravel-walks and shrubberies. Musicians attend each well every evening. The land round the several wells has the appearance of a garden in high cultivation.

Fisher's Hotel and Boarding-house is a very handsome building, erected by Lord Sherborne, and capable of entertaining four hundred persons. It is a very common thing to see three hundred sit down at one table to dinner.

A little farther on is the Crescent, a row of good modern brick dwelling-houses, indeed the principal buildings in the town.

Through the Church-mead, the walk is continued to the river Chelt, over which a slight drawbridge is thrown, to connect it with the public walks, and here stands the New Crescent.

Than the *Well-Walk*, there cannot be one in the kingdom more delightful, except Christ-Church Walk at Oxford. The *Well-Walk* is gravelled, and twenty feet wide, shaded by venerable elms, at twelve feet distance, whose embowering tops exclude the fierce rays of the sun. On each side there is a quickset hedge, and here and there a bench or garden chair. From the commencement of this walk to the pump in the centre, is nearly 600 feet. The church spire appears perfectly in a line with the walk, and the hour and minute may be easily distinguished.

On the east side of the Pump-square, is the Long Room, sixty-six feet by three, built in 1775, at the joint expence of the late Mr. Skillicorne, the ground-landlord, and Mr. Miller, then renter of the Spa. The walk immediately above the well, is equally shaded by a plantation of limes for more than 300 feet, which leads to the second, or *Orchard Well*, beyond which a serpentine path commences, upwards of 503 feet long. The sides are lined with elms, and at the extremity of the whole, is a picturesque villa, called *The Grove Cottage*, which terminates the scene.

Nearly opposite the Orchard Well, are Mr. Thompson's much-admired pleasure-grounds. Here his spacious pump-room appears with a viranda in front. About this charming spot are the beautiful, extensive, and romantic rides and walks, completed at a very considerable expence by this gentleman.

The terms for drinking at the Spa, for six weeks, is 3s. 6d. each person, or one guinea for a family, exclusive of a gratuity to the pumper. Walking 3s. 6d. each person; riding 7s. each horse; driving 10s. 6d. each carriage.

A book is always kept open in the pump-room, in which every visitor is expected to enter his name, and to put down subscriptions for the use of the room, and keeping the walks in proper repair. The valuable spring which constitutes the Spa, rises about one-third of a mile south of the church, and owes its discovery to a slow spring being observed to ooze through a strong, thick, bluish clay, or mould, under a sandy surface, which after spreading itself a few yards, again disappeared, leaving much of its salt behind. It was observed that, to feed on this salt, flocks of pigeons daily resorted here; and it was further remarked, that when other springs were fast bound by the frost, this continued flowing.

For a short time after the discovery of this spring, in 1716, it remained open, and any persons drank of it that thought it might be of service to them. However, in 1718, it was railed in, locked up, and a little shed built over it. Afterwards the virtues of these waters being made known by the writings of Dr. Baird of Worcester, and Dr. Greville of Gloucester, they were sold as a medicine, till in 1721, when the Spring was leased to Mr. Spencer at 61*l.* per annum. In 1738, the place was highly improved by Captain Skillicorne, who built the Old Room, and the late Pump, in the form of an obelisk. In 1740 Dr. Short pronounced it superior, as a chalybeate, to any thing of the kind in England. Its principal ingredients are Epsom and Glauber salts, a small portion of chalybeate, and some fixed air. The temperature at eight o'clock in the morning, is generally about 53° or 54°, and at noon, in the hottest season, 6° or 7° higher. The taste is slightly saline, and a small impression of bitter, like that of Epsom salt, is left upon the palate, but it is by no means so nauseous as most of the waters of the other wells.

It is also certain, that almost incredible cures have been performed by it, when taken on the spot. Its salts prove attenuating and cathartic; its chalybeate property is to brace, and as the iron it contains

strengthens the stomach, it is preferable in many cases to other saline springs, and in mildness, certainty, and expedition of operation, it is almost unrivalled, and is therefore peculiarly serviceable in hypochondriac and scorbutic cases. It restores a relaxed habit from long residence in a hot climate, free living, or the use of mercury; hence numbers who have been resident in the East Indies, come to visit Cheltenham. In female complaints at an early period of life, as well as at the turn of life, these waters may be used with much benefit.

Among the principal diseases which require a course of these waters, Dr. Jameson enumerates the following: inflamed schirrous liver or spleen; torpid action of the liver; bilious state of the stomach; habitual costiveness; hypochondriacal complaints; sick headache with bilious vomitings; some kinds of bilious purgings; jaundice and biliary concretions; depraved appetite and indigestion; pimply eruptions called scurvies; scaly and scurfy states of the skin; exudations and watery humours of the skin; some kinds of scrophulous tumors; inflammations of the eyes and eyelids; inflamed ulcers, and discharges of the legs; some stages of the rheumatism, and gout; inflammatory asthma; piles and fistula; diseases of the kidneys, gravel and stone; intestinal worms, &c.

The doctor thinks the summer the best time for a course of these waters, on account of the co-operation of air and exercise with the water. It is then also that the waters are strongest, and their refreshing effects most felt. Though spring and autumn are likewise proper seasons, and even in the middle of winter it is said the waters may be drank at the fire-side, or by taking off the chill. The best time of the day, at any season, is evidently early in the morning; and the dose ought always to be moderate on the first using. In all difficult cases, it is advisable to consult some of the resident physicians, among whom are Drs. Jenner, Jameson, Boisragon, Christie, Faulkner, Coley, Newel, &c.

In 1781, Mr. Skillicorne built a house for the late Earl of Fauconberg, at a small distance from the old well, on an eminence commanding an extensive and beautiful landscape. This mansion, called Bays-hill Lodge, was occupied by their late Majesties when they honoured Cheltenham with a visit, in 1788.

The *Orchard Well* has obtained its name from its situation at the top of a field of fruit trees. It is covered with a square pump-room of brick, and was dug in 1807 to supply the deficiency of water at the old well, from which it is distant about 100 yards.

Essex Well is about 320 yards directly above the Old Spa, and opposite Montpelier Wells, on the west side of Badgeworth-road. The water has a slightly saline and bitter taste, without any flavour of hepatic gas.

In consequence of the increased demand for water, in 1802, the earth was bored in more than forty different places under Dr. Jameson's direction, but without success; but in the October of the same year he discovered a saline spring at the depth of forty feet, which supplied a gallon of water in four minutes from a hole only two inches and a half in diameter. From experiments, it has been observed, "this water is beautifully transparent, and that it sparkled in the glasses."

Montpelier Wells derive their name from their situation in a field so called, and were opened in May 1808. The long pump-room here has pillars in front, and a music-room at the top. It also contains four pumps, which raise water from two wells. These are discharged by brass cocks on each side of the pump-case. There are beside, three cocks discharging water from a third well, at a considerable distance. Besides these, and several other waters, there are the waters in the *Octagon turret*, those in Hygeia-house, Allstone villa, New Spa, the Chalybeate springs, &c.

For a long time *hot-baths* were a great desideratum here, till Messrs. Freeman and Thompson arranged some on an excellent principle. Three of these being

lighted and ventilated by an opening in the top of the building, the bathers cannot be overlooked, and the internal atmosphere is preserved in so pure a state, that steam never appears even on the surface of the hot-baths till the temperature of the water exceeds 96° of Fahrenheit's scale. Three smaller baths are covered over, and have windows at a considerable height.

THE SPA, or PUMP-ROOM, is open every morning for the water-drinkers, and artists are allowed to exhibit specimens of their skill or manufactures here. A band of music, supported by subscription, plays to entertain the company.

During the season there are three or four Concerts at the Assembly-rooms, attended by most of the fashionable visitors; and nearly opposite these rooms, in an elegant and spacious mansion, there is a *Subscription Card Club*, upon a plan similar to that of York-house, Bath.

Mawe and Tatlow's Museum, being a grand repository of minerals, "exhibiting the geometry of nature, cut with mathematical exactitude," is much frequented by curious and intelligent people.

The Public, or Assembly-rooms, may vie with any for elegance and accommodation. Subscriptions at each, are half a guinea for the season. The balls are regularly kept up till the first or second week in October, under the direction of Captain Fotherington. The number of names entered in the Well-book has lately amounted to 5000, though about twenty-five years since, 500 would have been reckoned a full season.

The new Theatre Royal, a considerable ornament to the place, was erected in Cambray Mead. It is large and commodious, and the scenery and apparatus are superior to most country theatres; the prices are, boxes 4s.; pit 2s. 6d.; gallery 1s.

The Circulating Libraries here, contain every diversity that can be desired, as newspapers, novels, plays, voyages, travels, and a variety of other publications, French and English.

As the Spa-water sharpens the appetite, visitors

may be assured of being abundantly supplied with provisions of all kinds, on comparatively moderate terms; but though the regular market-day is on Thursday, every day in the week fish and other articles may be purchased. In 1807 a new market-house was built near the church.—Coals, by means of a rail-road from Gloucester, recently made, are at least one-third cheaper than they formerly were.

Except lodgings, (and the rent of these depends on circumstances) an excursion to Cheltenham, either for pleasure or health, is not very expensive. The two principal inns are the Plough, and the George. At the former is a well-frequented coffee-house.

In the back street are two elegant billiard-rooms, affording amusement on a rainy day, whilst in fine weather, the bowling-green offers an attraction to the healthy and convalescent, agreeable to their habits. The boarding-houses here afford excellent accommodations to persons that love society and cheerful company.

Within these few years, the utmost attention has been paid to the improvement of the roads round Cheltenham; and a rail-way from this town to Gloucester, has been constructed. The new turnpike-roads to this city, are better and shorter than the old.

Up to the present season, (1821) improvements have been daily making in the state and appearance of the public places at Cheltenham. The new entrance to the Montpelier drives and walks, connecting Mr. Thompson's Spas more immediately with his excellent Baths and Laboratory, form a fresh feature.

The proprietors of the Sherborne Spa have successfully increased the beauty of their walks by the most judicious expedients. Iron palisades have also been put up upon their bridge over the Chelt, producing an effect highly conducive to the general beauty of the scene. Thus the environs of this delightful place, progressively receive an aspect of tasteful cultivation, blending with, and heightening the charms of rural scenery.

Among the walks and rides round Cheltenham, is Presbury, a delightful village about two miles north of it, so secluded by orchards and trees, as to form a sylvan scene round almost every house. At the hotel here, is a grotto decorated with shells and fossils of various kinds; the windows are Gothic, and filled with painted glass; the floor is tessellated, and convex mirrors adorn the walls. The outside is pleasingly shaded with shrubs. Opposite the back of the house, on a raised terrace at the upper end of the garden, stands a Chinese temple, which is used as a tea-room. At a small distance from this temple is a tower, with two good octagon rooms, and a good view of the whole village; and from some hills to the eastward of this, there are views into ten counties.

A tract of land, about twenty acres, has been lately purchased near Cheltenham, for the employment of the distressed part of the community, upon which every person who is able, applying for parochial relief, is to be employed.

The village of *Dodsucll*, about four miles from Cheltenham, is another pleasant spot, commanding a view of the greatest part of the Vale of Gloucester; the Malvern-hills at a considerable distance are also seen to great advantage from this spot, especially when illuminated by the setting sun.

Seven Wells Head, the source of the Thames, being seven springs, rises in the parish of Cubberley, about seven miles from Cheltenham, and four and a half from Frog-mill. These springs from the Churn, are unquestionably the highest source of the Thames. The junction of the Thames and Isis at Salperton, about sixteen miles from Cheltenham, is also worth visiting.

The views from Widcombe, seven miles from Cheltenham, are uncommonly various and extensive. The best station is from a vista on the hill about a mile from the seat of the late Sir Howe Hicks, Bart. To the left is a part of the Forest of Dean, and the conical mountain near Abergavenny; in front are the ponderous hills of Malvern; to the right lie Tewkesbury

and Worcester; and the Welsh mountains at a great distance, form the back ground.

Stroud and the Bottoms, as they are called, where the clothing manufacture is carried on to a great extent, deserve to be included among the picturesque and enchanting rides in the vicinity of Cheltenham.

SOUTHAM, about three miles from Cheltenham, is a large tithing in the parish of Clieve, wherein Thomas Bagshot De la Bere, Esq. who is lord of the manor, has a fine seat, called **SOUTHAM-HOUSE**. This edifice is one of the greatest curiosities in the county: it is a low building, in the style of the age of Henry VI. but according to Leland, must have been erected in the early part of the reign of Henry VIII. and it still remains in its original state.

At **BISHOPS CLEEVE**, there was anciently a small fraternity of monks, established about the year 790. The church is a curious and spacious structure, of various styles of architecture, from the Saxon or early Norman times to the last century.

Upon *Clieves-hill*, or *Cleeve-Cloud*, in this parish, are the remains of a large double intrenchment called the *Camps*, extending 350 yards along the summit of the rock, in the form of a crescent, and inaccessible on every side but the front. The views from this place are remarkably fine; the ascent from the foot of Cleeve-Cloud to the top of the eminence being 63 feet perpendicular.

WINCHCOMBE,

Is a populous town, six miles from Cheltenham, very beautifully situated at the base of several hills, with the little river Isborne flowing near it on the south-east. According to Leland, the town was anciently walled round, and in the time of the Saxons was a county of itself; but not the least vestige now remains of its former grandeur.

The government of the town, or borough, as it is still called, is vested in two bailiffs, chosen annually. The market is on Saturday.

By whom the castle was erected is unknown; but the foundation of the abbey, anno 798, is ascribed to Kenulph, King of Mercia, who is said by Leland, to have had a palace here. The spot chosen for the abbey had been previously occupied by a nunnery founded by King Offa: its dedication was celebrated with great pomp; the solemnity being conducted by Wulfrid, Archbishop of Canterbury, and twelve bishops, in presence of Kenulph himself; his prisoner, Cuthred, King of Kent, who was released on the occasion; Sired, King of the West Saxons, and most of the Mercian nobles: many rich gifts were at the same time distributed by Kenulph; who, on his death, in 820, was buried in the abbey church. Kenelm, his son, then but seven years of age, was murdered by his tutor, Askebert, at the instigation of Quenred his elder sister, who was prompted to the murder by the hope of succeeding to the kingdom. His remains having been discovered in a wood, and that, according to the monkish legends, miraculously, they were removed to the abbey, where a shrine being erected over them, the convent became greatly enriched by the offerings that were made by superstitious visitants. The abbey was afterwards destroyed by the Danes, and rebuilt about the year 985, by Oswald, Bishop of Worcester, who made it a College of Seculars, and dedicated it anew to the Virgin Mary and St. Kenelm. The possessions of this abbey were numerous; and at the period of the Domesday survey, no fewer than nineteen manors in this county were annexed to it, independently of Winchcombe itself. In 1265, its abbot, John de Yanworth, or Yarmouth, was summoned to parliament; and from that period the succeeding abbots had the same privilege. Richard Ancelme, the twenty-eighth and last abbot, subscribed to the king's supremacy in 1534, and surrendered his abbey and its possessions, in December 1539. His immediate predecessor, Richard de Kederminster, is recorded by Browne Willis, to have written a very valuable history of the foundation of this monastery;

and another of the lives of the abbots; the latter of which was burnt in the fire of London. The abbey, and all its buildings, were totally destroyed very soon after the Dissolution, though traditionally reported to have been extremely magnificent. The manor is now the property of Lord Rivers.

Winchcombe, with a small adjoining and dependent tract, is said to have been a sheriffdom, or county, in the Anglo-Saxon time, and to have so continued till the reign of Canute, whose viceroy, Edric, surnamed Streona, divested it of its independence, and annexed it to Gloucestershire. From information recorded by Leland, it appears to have extended much further, particularly to the southward. The houses are mostly low, and of stone; they are principally ranged in two streets, crossing each other. The church, dedicated to St. Peter, was begun in the reign of Henry the Sixth, by the Abbot William Winchcombe, who completed the east part: the remainder was finished by subscriptions among the parishioners, assisted by the munificence of Ralph Boteler, Lord Sudeley. It is a spacious building, consisting of a nave, aisles, and chancel, with an embattled tower at the west end, opening by an arch into the nave. The body of the church is also ornamented with battlements and pinnacles, and on every buttress are monstrous caricatures of human and animal heads: on the south is a neat porch, with tracery on the ceiling. The pillars in the interior are octagon: the nave is separated from the chancel by a clumsy gallery, and a carved screen below it. The altar is detached from the wall, and covered with an ancient, but once magnificent carpet, embroidered with a border of Saints, in coloured silk and silver.

TODDINGTON HOUSE, about three miles from Winchcombe, is now the property of Charles Hanbury Tracey, Esq. This spacious building, erected about the latter end of the seventeenth century, has been completely modernized within a few years past.

This was the ancient seat of the Traceys, descended

from Henry de Traci, Lord of Barnstaple in Devonshire. The gardens and pleasure-grounds are laid out in the modern style. The park, south of the manor-house, contains about 150 acres, and abounds with rabbits. In the chancel of Toddington church, are preserved nine figures of the Apostles, delicately finished, and about eighteen inches in height, supposed to have been brought from Hayles Abbey.

About a quarter of a mile from Winchcombe, are the ruins of SUDELEY, or SUDLY CASTLE, which was once a place of great strength and magnificence. It is now the property of Lord Rivers.

In that part of the castle which is still kept in repair, is an elegant chapel, in which the five first lords of Chandos are interred.

The remains of Sudeley Castle, excite the idea of a castellated mansion rather than of a baronial fortress. This building was erected by Ralph Lord Boteler, in the reign of Henry VI. but in the time of Edward VI. it was granted to Sir Thomas Seymour, who retired here with Catherine Parr, the Queen Dowager, who had honoured him with her hand, and who here fell a sacrifice to his cruel usage. She died in child-bed, not without suspicion of poison, and before her death, severely reproached the admiral for his ingratitude. Her grave was discovered in the castle here in 1782, from whence her remains have been removed into a more secure sepulchre in Sudeley Chapel. This and the castle had been terribly dismantled during the Civil Wars between Charles I. and the Parliament.

The Lord Sudeley, says Leland, "that builded the castle, was a famous man of warre in K. Henry V. and K. Henry VI. dayes; and was an admirall, as I have heard, on sea; whereupon it was supposed and spoken, that it was partly builded *ex spoliis Gallorum*: and some speake of a tower in it, called Potmare's Tower, that it should be made of a ransom of his. One thinge was to be noted in this castle, that part of the windowes of it were glazed with be-rall. K. Edw. IV. bore noe good will to the L. Sude-

ley, as a man suspected to be, in heart, K. Hen. VI. his man: whereupon, by complaynts he was attacked; and going up to London, he looked from the hill to Sudeley, and sayd, *Sudeley Castle, thou art the traitor, not I.* After, he made an honest declaration, and sould his castle to K. Edw. IV.

“Ballard, and others, who have mentioned this unfortunate queen, were not able to discover where she died, nor where she was buried; but from a manuscript concerning her funeral, published in Rudder’s Gloucestershire, it appeared that she died, and was buried at Sudeley. From this hint, Dr. Nash, and some friends went to Sudeley, on purpose to discover the body in the chapel, in which all monumental memorials had long since perished; the building having been unroofed, and bared to the very walls, in the unfortunate rebellion. A little way under ground, he discovered the coffin: upon opening it, the body was found in perfect preservation; but on coming to the air, turned in part to dust.”

After the attainder and death of Seymour, the castle was granted to William Parr, Marquis of Northampton, who forfeited it soon afterwards. On the accession of Queen Mary, it was bestowed on Sir John Bridges, Knight, of Coberly, a celebrated warrior, and strenuous supporter of her right to the Crown. In 1554, his services were rewarded with the title of Baron Chandos of Sudeley, with limitation to his heirs male. Giles, third Lord Chandos, entertained Queen Elizabeth in his castle here, in 1592. His nephew, Grey Bridges, fifth Lord Chandos, was styled *King of the Cotswold*, from his hospitality and numerous retinue. George, his successor, fought bravely in the cause of Charles the First; but as the contest advanced, the Republicans prevailed; and his castle was forced to surrender, after several assaults, to a body of musqueteers, under Colonel Massie, in January 1642. Then it was that this splendid mansion became a ruin; for the conquerors

indulging a splenetic resentment at the opposition they had met with, dismantled the walls, and habitable parts; and having destroyed the memorials of the dead, stripped the chapel, even of its very roof. Soon afterwards, the Republicans were dispossessed by the Royalists; but in 1644, the castle was again surrendered to the united forces of Massie and Sir William Waller. On the death of the above George Lord Chandos, without issue male, his estates went by bequest, to Jane, his widow, who afterwards marrying George Pitt, of Strathfield Say, in Hampshire, conveyed them to his family and his descendants.

Considered as a ruin, *Sudeley Castle* is grand, rather than strikingly picturesque. It is every where commanded by a bird's-eye view, excepting from Winchcombe, and the elevation is very gradual. Its extent, and lofty towers, with the rich architecture of the hall, in various fragments, indicate the magnificence celebrated by Leland, and by Fuller, who, in his quaint phraseology, calls it, "of subjects' castles, the most handsome habitation; and of subjects' habitations, the strongest castle." We look, with curiosity and regret, on the fractured windows which once contained *beryls**. The chapel is uncommonly light and elegant, and certainly in too pure a style for the age of Seymour, to whom its erection is commonly attributed. With greater accuracy, it may be referred to the time of Lord Boteler, the builder of the castle, when that kind of ecclesiastical architecture had attained its zenith. At the west end is a large window, having a beautiful canopied niche on each side; and above it, rising over the roof, a sort of square turret. In this chapel the first five Lords Chandos were interred; the sixth was buried in a small side chapel, or aisle, which is now used as the parish-church.

* As the beryl is an opaque stone, the windows were more probably furnished with stained glass, so called in Leland's time.

GUETING-PARK, the property of — Snell, Esq. abounds with beautiful scenery, being situated in an extremely pleasant and cultivated part of Cotswold. The mansion is an elegant and neat edifice.

About two miles north-east from Winchcombe are the remains of **HALES ABBEY**.

Hayles, or Hales, was previously to the Conquest, in the possession of a Saxon, named Osgot; but was afterwards given by the Conqueror to William Leuric, a Norman knight. Having passed through various possessors, it reverted to the Crown in 1226, and was granted by Henry the Third to his brother, Richard, King of the Romans, and Earl of Cornwall, for the purpose of accomplishing a vow which the Earl had made when in danger of shipwreck in the British Channel. In pursuance of this vow, he founded an Abbey here for Cistercian monks about the year 1246, and removed into it twenty monks from the Abbey of Beaulieu in the New Forest, Hampshire. The buildings were finished in the most magnificent style of that age, at the expence of 10,000 marks, as the founder himself is recorded to have informed Mathew Paris, the historian. On the ninth of November, 1251, the abbey was dedicated to St. Mary, and All Saints; the church, the cloisters, and the refectory, being then completed. The solemnity was graced by the presence of Henry the Third, his Queen, and almost all the nobility and prelates in England. Mass was celebrated at thirteen altars, by as many Bishops; and on the Sunday following the dedication, all the visitors, including a retinue of 300 knights, were sumptuously entertained together. In 1271 the chief part of the abbey was destroyed by fire; but it was again restored, though at the additional expence of 8000 marks, by the founder, who dying the following year, was buried near the high altar; the body of his wife, Senchia, had been previously interred there; and in 1300, Edmund, their son, Earl of Cornwall, was also deposited in the same place. The riches of the abbey were much increased by a gift from this

Earl, of a vessel, reputed to contain a portion of the blood of CHRIST, which, in the age of credulity and superstition, attracted innumerable visitors and oblations, and obtained the abbey great privileges from succeeding popes.

The nature and extent of these privileges may be seen by the following extract from Leland's Collectanea: "The Yere of our Lord MCCLXX. Edmond the nobyll Earle of Cornuale brought a porcyon of precyous Blode of CRYSTE JHESU, that he shedde for Mankynde upon the Crosse, unto the Abbey of *Hayles* upon Holy rode day in Herviste, where God dailie sheweth Miracles throwe the virtue of that precyous Blode. And therefore Pope John XXIIIth. hath grauntede for evermore to the Abbot of that Monasterii of Hayles, power to syne 2 Confessors, the whiche may here confession of all Pylgrymes, and asoyle them of all Synnes, excepte the poyntes that bethe reservede to the Pope's own person. Also the seyde Pope John hath grauntede to all Bretherne and Systerne of the Chapter House of the seyde Monasterri, power to chuse hem a Confessor, the whiche may confesse and asoyle them in the point of Dethe of all Synnes, none excepte. Also Pope Eugeni IVth. hathe grauntede to the Abbot of the seyde Monasterii, power to syne 7 Confessors at the Feste of Corpus Christi, the whiche may asoyle all Pylgrimes of all ther Synnes. Moreover the seyde Pope Eugeni hathe grauntede 7 Yere, and 3 Lentes, to all those that gevythe any Thinge to the Worship of God, and that precyous Blode and other relykis that bethe in that place. Also Pope Calixt the IIIde. hath grauntede full Remission at the Feste of Corpus Christi, and at the principal Festes in the Yere; that ys to sey, at the Holyroday in May, and Holyroday in Herveste, at yche of thes Festys, with 4 days followynge; and also the 3d. weke in Lent, and eche of thes 4, full Remission of all Synnes. Also 15 Cardinals hath he grauntede yche be himself 100 Dayes of Pardon to all hem that honoure that precyous Blode, and other

Reliques whiche be in that forsayde place, and put to ther helpynge Hondes to the welfare of that forsayde Monasterii of Haylis." In Ames's *Typogr. Antiq.* vol. I. p. 285, is mentioned, "a Little Treatise (in metre) of divers Miracles shewed for the Portion of Christ's Blood at Hayles Abbey," &c. printed by Richard Pynson, in Quarto, but without date. The visitors at the Reformation, reported that the blood was that of some animal frequently renewed, and inclosed in a crystal bottle, one side of which was more opaque than the other, the better to carry on the deception.

This esteemed relique had been brought by the Earl from Germany, where it had been discovered among the stores of "the ancient Emperors;" and one part of the quantity obtained, he gave to this abbey, and "the other 2 Partes hee dydde reserve" till he had founded the Abbey of Bonnehombres, at Ashbridge, in Buckinghamshire, when they were assigned to that foundation, and proved an equally prolific source of wealth. In the year 1307, 1st Edward I. Walter de Flagge, who was then abbot, was summoned to a great council held at Carlisle: but at what period the mitre and pontificals were finally conceded, is uncertain. On the Dissolution, the possessions of the abbey were estimated at 357*l.* 7*s.* 8*d.* annually; and the jewels and ornaments were found to be of great value. Edward the First granted the site of the abbey, and the greatest part of the manor, to Sir Thomas Scymour. It is now the property of C. H. Tracey, Esq. of Toddington, it having been purchased by one of the Lords Tracey in the reign of Charles the First.

The situation of Hayles Abbey is extremely fine; its site being a rich meadow, sheltered on the north and east sides by high hills, covered with wood. It appears from the ruins, that the buildings formed a quadrangle, with a cloister, inclosing an area about forty yards square. The south-west angle contained the abbot's lodgings; and part of the entrance tower still

remains. This is embattled, and contained a great chamber with large bow windows. The other part of the abbot's lodgings, which are said to have been rebuilt a short time previous to the Dissolution, extended over the cloisters; some broken arches of the latter, in the lancet form, with ornaments of trefoils, were lately standing as well as the conventual barn, and various offices inhabited as cottages. When the abbey was dissolved, many of the ornaments, as painted glass, chimney pieces, and figured bricks, were collected by the neighbouring gentry to decorate their own mansions. Hayles church, a very small and mean edifice, was constructed from the ruins of the abbey, before 1603, by William Hobby, Esq. who was then lord of the manor; and died in that year, at the great age of 103. His wife was the daughter of John Hodgkins, to whom the manor had been granted by Queen Elizabeth.

At Buckland, about six miles from Winchcombe, the church is entitled to some notice, on account of its antiquity, and some beautiful painted glass, which is contained in the east window of the chancel, executed with such brilliancy of colouring and correctness of outline, that it must have been done when the art had gained its utmost perfection.

Buckland was given to the Abbey of Gloucester by Kynred, King of the Mercians; but after the Dissolution, was exchanged for lands in Yorkshire, by Sir Richard Gresham, Lord Mayor of London in 1536: from his family it was conveyed by the marriage of a daughter and co-heiress of Sir Thomas Gresham, founder of the Royal Exchange, to Sir John Thynne, whose descendant, the Marquis of Bath, sold it to Thomas Philips, Esq. of Middle-Hill, in Warwickshire.

The church is in the style of the fifteenth century, and consists of a nave, aisles, and chancel, with an embattled tower, at the angles of which are grotesque sculptures of flying demons, for water-spouts. The painted glass, before-mentioned, represents three of

the sacraments of the Romish Church; that is, the Ceremony of Baptism, the Office of Matrimony, and Extreme Unction. The Rectory-house was built about 1520, by William Grafton, then rector, whose device or rebus, the graft of a tree issuing from a tun, is displayed in a window of the hall.

About two miles north of Buckland, is CHILD'S WICKHAM. This parish being a peculiar, the lord of the manor by ancient custom, entertains the bishop and archdeacon upon the visitation, at the manor-house; providing them with a cake, a loaf, a pound of butter, a quarter of a sage cheese, a quarter of a plain cheese, a dozen of ale, and six bottles of strong beer. Another custom of this manor has been immemorially observed at Whitsuntide, when the lord "furnishes a certain quantity of malt for ale, to be given away, and flour to make cakes. At the same time, every one that keeps a cow, sends curd; others send sugar, plumbs, and flour; and the land-holders contribute sixpence each: from this fund every poor person in the parish may receive a quart of ale, a cake, a piece of cheese, and a cheese-cake."

At Saintbury, two miles before we reach Campden, there is a camp, called CASTLE BANK, above the church. According to Mr Gough, this appears to have been dependent on another very large one, higher up on the top of a hill, enclosing nearly 60 acres, in the parish of West Cleyns, still called *Castle Tump*. They are both ascribed to the Danes.

CAMPDEN is a borough and corporate town, situated in a fertile valley surrounded by cultivated hills and hanging woods. Campden is a place of great antiquity, and the buildings are principally ranged in one street, nearly in the centre of which are the court and market-house. So early as 689, the Saxon kings are said to have held a congress here, to consult on the mode of carrying on the war against the Britons. The era, however, in which it attained the most importance, was in the fourteenth century, when being incorporated by James I. it became a

principal mart for wool, and the residence of many opulent merchants, who exported that commodity to Flanders, then the manufacture of cloth for the general supply of Europe. After the establishment of this trade in England, Campden was gradually deprived of its former consequence.

The market is held on Wednesday.

The court-house is an ancient structure of the fifteenth century, or earlier; but the market-house was erected by Sir Baptist Hickes, in the year 1624. A capacious mansion yet remaining, of nearly the same age as the court-house, is said to have been a residence of one of the wool-merchants. The church, dedicated to St James, stands on a gentle eminence above the town, in the hamlet of *Barrington*, which, according to tradition, received its name from the tumuli or barrows raised over the bodies of persons slain in a great battle between the Mercians and the West Saxons, whose encampments were at Willersey and Meen-hill, in the neighbourhood. A bridge at Barrington still bears the name of Battle-bridge. The church is an elegant structure, nearly symmetrical, and consists of a spacious nave sixty feet high, with an aisle on each side, a chancel, and a tower at the west end, 120 feet high, ornamented in a very chaste style, and finished by battlements, and twelve pinnacles. At the east end of each aisle is a chapel; that on the north side is the burial place of the families of Hicks and Noel. To the munificence of the wool-merchants in the flourishing period before mentioned, it is probable this beautiful building owed its erection. Several of them are here interred with brass effigies and memorials.

In the chapel in the south aisle, are some of as fine marble monuments as any in England. That to the memory of Baptist, Lord Hickes, Viscount Campden, and his lady Elizabeth, is a very stately altar tomb; on which are recumbent effigies of those personages, in their robes of state, and coronets. The former died in October, 1629, at the age of seventy-eight;

having, as his epitaph expresses it, "by the blessing of God, on his ingenious endeavours, arose to an ample estate, but of which, in his lifetime, he disposed to charitable uses, to the value of 10,000*l*." Bigland, or rather Mr. Dallaway, imagines, that this sumptuous monument was executed either by Nicholas Stone, or his sons, "it being no way unworthy of such eminent sculptors, and this kingdom affording no other capable of so great a work." Another monument records the memory of Edward, Lord Noel, and his lady Juliana, whose figures are displayed in Parian marble, as large as life, standing in their winding sheets, within a niche represented as contained in a cabinet, the folding doors of which are thrown open, and bear inscriptions. This monument was erected in the year 1664, at the cost of the Lady Juliana, by Joshua Marshall, whom Walpole has but slightly mentioned, though this is a very highly finished performance: Lord Noel died in 1642; his lady survived him thirty-eight years. On a mural monument, in remembrance of Lady Penelope Noel, daughter of the former, is her bust, in a Vandyke dress; the drapery finely executed. This is so much in the style of the figures of Alderman Blackleach, and his wife, in Gloucester Cathedral, that it may be attributed to the same artist; who, most probably, was Francesco Fanelli. Lady Penelope died in 1633, at the age of twenty-two. Various other funeral memorials are contained in this edifice. The effect of the interior is destroyed by the pews, which are irregular, and badly placed. A curious *Cope*, of crimson velvet, semée of ducal coronets and etoiles, and having portraits of saints embroidered on the border, is preserved here in an old chest. This was probably used in the Catholic times, when four chantries existed here, with competent endowments.

Near the church are some remains of a very magnificent mansion, erected by Sir Baptist Hickes, soon after he purchased the manor, early in the seventeenth century. "From an accurate plan and eleva-

tion, still extant, it appears to have been an edifice in the boldest style of that day. It consisted of four fronts; the principal towards the garden, upon the grand terrace: at the east angle was a lateral projection, of some feet, with spacious bow windows; in the centre, a portico, with a series of columns, of the five orders, as in the schools of Oxford; and an open corridor. The parapet was finished with peditments, of a capricious taste; and the chimneys were twisted pillars with Corinthian capitals: a very capacious dome (or lantern) issued from the roof, which was regularly illuminated for the direction of travelers during the night. This immense building was enriched with frizes and entablatures, most profusely sculptured: it is reported to have occupied, with its offices, a site of eight acres, and to have been erected at the expence of 29,000*l*." The destruction of this fabric was occasioned by the loyal spirit of Baptist, Lord Noel, grandson of Sir Baptist, who, during the Civil Wars, commanded it to be set on fire, that it might not be garrisoned by the Parliament's forces, which he understood were advancing; but, as it afterwards appeared, they did not approach nearer than Warwick. The principal remains are the grand entrance, composed of two low pavilions, connected by a screen, and two banquetting-houses, which terminated the terrace. Who was the architect of this pile is unknown. "A sameness of style pervades the *Hospital*, and other public buildings, which Sir Baptist gave for the benefit of the inhabitants of Campden; all of which are distinguished by his armorial ensigns." Various donations have been made, for the use of the poor, and other useful purposes; particularly by Sir Baptist Hikes, whose "*good deedes* done to this towne," have found an accurate register in Stow.

Sir Baptist appears to had a great fondness for building. In 1612, he built *Campden-House*, at Kensington, which still remains in the best style of that age. He also erected the Sessions House, called *Hikes's Hall*, which formerly stood in St. John's

Street, London, in an open space, nearly opposite the end of St. John's Lane. The fashion of building enormous houses, succeeded the dismantling of castles by Henry the Seventh, and was much practised in the reigns of Elizabeth and James, by the great nobility, who, deserting their baronial residences, indulged themselves in rivalry of immense expence; and this conduct was of course imitated by opulent merchants, the founders of new families.

Dr. Robert Harris, a celebrated preacher in the interest of the Parliament, and President of Trinity College, Oxford, during the interregnum, was born at Campden in 1578: he died in his eightieth year. Mr. George Ballard, author of *Memoirs of British Ladies*, was also a native of this town. He was one of those singular compositions, his biographers observe, "that shoot forward without culture." Being of a delicate habit, he was apprenticed to a tailor, in which lowly situation he obtained a knowledge of the Saxon language, when the labours of the day were over, and during the hours which are generally devoted to sleep. His attention to learning having come to the knowledge of Lord Chedworth, and other gentlemen who frequented his lordship's hunt round Campden, they generously offered him an annuity of 100*l.* but this he modestly declined; observing that 60*l.* yearly was fully adequate to his wishes. On this small sum he seated himself at Oxford, that he might enjoy the advantage of the Bodleian Library; and, after some time, he was made one of the University Bedels. His intense application contributed to shorten his life; and he died in 1755, rather young. He left large collections which yet remain in manuscript; his only published work being the *Memoirs* already noticed. Hearne has mentioned him as a great admirer of Stow; and an account of Campden Church, written by him, was read at a meeting of the Society of Antiquaries.

The vicinity of Campden was the theatre of the *Cotswold Games*, which in the reigns of James the

First, and his unfortunate successor, were greatly celebrated in this part of England. They were instituted by a public-spirited attorney, of Barton-on-the-Heath, in Warwickshire, named Robert Dover, and like the Olympic Games of the ancients, consisted of most kinds of manly exercises. The victors were rewarded by prizes, distributed by the institutor, who, arrayed in a discarded habit of King James's, superintended the games in person for many years. The meetings were annually held on Whit-Thursdays, and were frequently attended by an immense multitude. Ben Jonson, Drayton, and other poets of that age, wrote verses on this festivity, which, in 1636, were collected into one volume, and published under the title of *Annalia Dubrensia*. These diversions were at length terminated by the breaking out of the Civil Wars; but the remembrance of them is yet preserved by an annual meeting of young persons on *Dover Hill*, an eminence about half a mile from Campden, where the principal games were celebrated.

The battle of Edgehill was fought near Campden, and many of the cavaliers who were killed in the action are buried in Campden church.

Journey from Cheltenham to Cirencester.

About three miles from Cheltenham is LECKHAMPTON, a parish containing about 1000 acres of very irregular ground, part of it being rich pasture, the remainder mountainous. From one of these mountains, all the stone used in the neighbourhood is obtained. For the making of lime there are several windlasses erected, for the greater facility of applying that article. Iron railways also extend to the top of the hill. To the highest windlass, it is about a mile, and eastward of this, are seven springs, the source of the rivers Thames and Isis; the rise of the waters is so strong here, that in twenty yards from the springs, which are all within two or three yards of each other, the flush alone, forms a body of about fifteen feet wide. Part of the tithes of Leckhampton, formerly belong-

ing to the nunnery of Usk, in Monmouthshire, was granted in the twenty-second of Elizabeth, to John Fernham; which titles now belong to the impropriator of Cheltenham.

In the church there is a tomb, upon which are the effigies of a knight, cross-legged, supposed to represent Sir John Gifford, who died, seized of this manor, in the third year of the reign of Edward III. At Leckhampton is an old handsome mansion belonging to Mrs. Trye.

BIRDLIP HILL, is remarkable for the extent and beauty of the prospects it commands. The most interesting feature in the landscape is the Roman road, which runs from the base of the hill to Gloucester, in an uninterrupted straight line, nearly six miles in length. To the left of Birdlip are the extensive woods of Sir W. Hickes, Bart.

At BRIMPSFIELD, seven miles from Cirencester, there was an alien priory of Benedictine monks, which was a cell to the abbey of St. Stephen, at Foutenay, in Normandy. There was formerly a castle here, which was razed to the ground in the reign of Edward II. on account of the attainder of John Gifford, to whom it then belonged.

The church at ELKSTONE, about a mile from hence, is "one of the most ancient buildings in the county of Gloucester; though its external appearance does not promise so much, it having been considerably altered, especially in the reign of Richard II. when the tower was built. Indeed, little of its original architecture remains, on the outside, except a fascia, running round the upper part of the nave, below which are a variety of grotesque heads and figures, and a round-headed window at the east end of the chancel, ornamented with an embattled fret. The south door is a rich specimen of ancient architecture: over it is the figure of our Saviour, sitting on a throne, with his right hand extended, and holding a book in his left; over his head is the figure of a hand pointing downwards: and round him are the holy lamb, and

symbols of the evangelists, all carved in basso-relievo. This group of figures is surrounded by a semi-circular arch, and grotesque heads, and zig-zag mouldings, which are very similar to those round the south door of Siddington Church. The inside of the chancel is the only (interior) part now remaining in its original state. The appearance of this chancel is very singular, the arches not being correctly circular, but exhibiting great irregularity, part of which has, no doubt, been occasioned by its decay; the columns and pilasters, supporting the arches, lean outwards several inches beyond the perpendicular. The roof is not more than twelve feet in height, though on the outside it appears much higher than the nave."

DUNTSBOURNE ABBOTS, four miles from Cirencester, is so called from having belonged to the Abbots of Gloucester.

At NORTH CERNEY, about three miles east from hence, an annual race course has long been established. "The imperfect vestiges of a Roman specula, or outpost, with circumvallations, are here to be traced; and a lachrymatory of a blue vitrified substance was formerly discovered."

Journey from Bristol to Aust Passage.

STOKE BISHOP, about two miles north-west from Bristol, on the right of the road going off Durdham Down towards *King's Weston*, is a fine old mansion, the seat of Lady Lipencot. To the left, about half a mile distant, is a building resembling a church, or tower, called Cooke's Folly; it stands on the brow of a high cliff, that overlooks the river Avon quite down to King's Road. The common people in this neighbourhood relate that one Cooke, having dreamt a viper should bite him, and occasion his death, he, to prevent it, erected this building, and immured himself therein; yet nevertheless his dream came to pass: a viper happened to be concealed among some faggots that were laid upon the fire, by which Cooke was sitting to warm himself; the venomous creature

on feeling the heat, suddenly sprung forth, and bit him in such a manner that he died.

SAY-MILL DOCK, near SNEED PARK, is a place that was some years since of great importance, and made at a very considerable expence. It was of such magnitude as to contain several large ships, which lay afloat in its bason. But as there are now other docks in more convenient situations, this has been neglected, and the walls, gates, &c. with the cranes and houses, are almost gone to ruin.

At three miles from Bristol we enter WESTBURY-ON-TRIM, a small neat village, where there was formerly a college, for a dean and five canons, supposed to have been founded either by Bishop Carpenter, or the celebrated William Cannyngs, of Bristol, who became the first dean. The building was entire in the reign of Charles I. and was destroyed during the Civil Wars, by order of Prince Rupert, lest it should afford shelter to the Parliament troops, in annoyance to the garrison of Bristol. The remains now form part of a very respectable mansion, the property of John Hobhouse, Esq.

About two miles to the left of Westbury, is KING'S WESTON, the beautiful seat of Lord de Clifford. The mansion is situated on an eminence, in a park of nearly 500 acres. Nothing can exceed the grandeur and beauty of the situation of King's Weston. The grounds are finely broken, the trees elegantly planted, and luxuriant in their growth. The prospect down and across the Severn, into Wales, is remarkably grand and picturesque.

King's Weston is one of Vanbrugh's best works, it having more simplicity, and less affectation of cumbersome ornament than many others of his building. A peculiarity, and, perhaps, a merit in his architecture, was his management of chimneys, the purpose of which he concealed by uniting them with the mass, so as to improve the general effect: this circumstance may be remarked both at Blenheim and Castle-Howard, where they form pinnacles, if such a

term may be applied to modern architecture. At King's Weston they are connected in an arcade in the centre of the roof. Through the different apartments are many original portraits, and other paintings by the first masters. Among the former are Cromwell, Earl of Essex, and Sir Richard Southwell, both eminent statesmen in the reign of Henry VIII. and the immediate ancestors of Lord de Clifford: these were executed by Holbein, as well as others in this mansion. Inlaid in the doors of two cabinets are various original miniatures of the Cliffords, and other illustrious personages, from the time of Queen Elizabeth to that of James II.: these are extremely curious, and possess great merit.

The romantic scenery of Clifton, less than two miles from Bristol, has often afforded employment to the pen and the pencil; and even the village itself which crowns the northern summit of the cliffs, has obtained celebrity from the medicinal spring at the base of the rocks, and which has given origin to the **HOT WELLS**. Here the scenery is of a sublime character, especially from a point contiguous to the Well-house; but the valley is so narrow, and crowded with houses, that it admits of little fore-ground. The chasm through which the Avon flows in this part of its course, is formed of limestone rocks, shooting up precipitously to a vast height, and varying in colour from light red to brown, dark grey and blue. Great quantities of the rocks are annually burnt into lime. The height of the cliffs on each side is nearly equal; and the strata so nearly correspond both in substance and inclination, that hardly a doubt can be entertained of the chasm having been formed by some violent natural convulsion.

BLAIZE CASTLE, about four miles from Bristol, is the seat of S. Harford, Esq. It is beautifully situated on a fine eminence, rising from the village of Henbury. Several Roman coins and other antiquities have been found here. It probably was the site of a Roman specula, or out-post. The present

name is derived from Bishop Blaize, the patron of the wool-combers, to whom a chapel that stood on this eminence was dedicated.

At *Grovesend*, or Grovening, a hamlet in Alveston parish, there is a large circular encampment, and near it an immense tumulus, which, upon being opened in the year 1760, was found to contain several stone coffins with human bones.

AUST PASSAGE, over the Severn, is in the parish of *Aust*, about twelve miles north from Bristol. Aust is the direct way to Newent, Newnham, and all the Forest of Deau, Herefordshire, Worcestershire, and the upper part of Monmouthshire. At the New Passage it is about three miles over at high water to Port Skewith, near St. Pierre in Monmouthshire. This is the direct way to Cardiff, Caerleon, Pontypool, and most parts of South Wales.

The difference of passing at Aust and the New Passage varies about an hour: tide coming in, wind above, New Passage is an hour sooner than Aust; tide going out, wind below, Aust is an hour sooner than New.

The local proverbs of the county of Gloucester are thus enumerated by Mr. Ruff, and by Grose in his Provincial Glossary:

“*As sure as God’s in Gloucestershire*”—A saying originating in the days of superstition, from the number and riches of the religious houses here, said to have been double both in quantity and value to those in any other county in England.

“*You are a man of Dursley*”—Applied to one who had broken his promise, and probably alluded to an ancient and notorious breach of faith in the inhabitants of that town, the particulars of which are now forgotten.

“*It’s as long a coming as Cotswold barley*”—Applied to things slow and sure. The corn in this cold county on the Wolds, exposed to the winds, is very backward at first; but afterwards

overtakes the forwardest, if not in the barn, in the bushel, both for quantity and goodness.

“*A Cotswold Lion*”—That is, a sheep; Cotswold being famous for its sheep-walks or pastures.

“*As thick as Tewkesbury mustard*”—Said of one remarkably stupid—See Shakespeare’s Henry IV.

“*The Traceys have always the wind in their faces*”—A monkish legend. Sir William Tracey was one of the four knights who relieved the King of that turbulent prelate Thomas à Becket, for the punishment of which the monks pretended, that whenever any of the Tracey family travelled by land or water, the wind always blew in their faces. This, Fuller drily observes, was in hot weather a blessing, rather than a curse, exempting the females of that family from the expence and trouble of buying a fan.

Among the minerals and fossils which distinguish this county, are the following:

Minerals—Iron ore at Iron Acton, Bitton and Stone; iron pyrites at Awre, Westbury, and Frethern Cliffs; coal in the Forest of Dean; gypsum and sulphate of strontian in Aust Cliffs; quartz crystals at Clifton; freestone on the Cotswold; tophus at Dursley; Cotham-stone at Cotham; grit-stone at Frampton Cotterell.

Fossils—Cornu, ammonis, and conetra rugosa, in Frethern and Westbury Cliffs; asteria at Pyrton; asteria columnaris at Winrush; siliquastra, or fossil pods, ditto astroites, at Lessington, Wick, and Abstone; nautili, near Sodbury; coralloides, anomie cochlea, at Sherborne, North Leach, and Dursley; vertebræ of eucrinites, Lessington Hill, near Gloucester; limpets at Minchinghampton; pentacrinus, or stone lilly, near Pyrton Passage, not far from Blakeley.—Vide *Philosophical Transactions, and Parkinson’s Organic Remains*.

THE END.

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A
TOPOGRAPHICAL
AND
STATISTICAL DESCRIPTION
OF THE
COUNTY OF HEREFORD:

Containing an Account of its

Situation,	Minerals,	Agriculture,
Extent,	Fisheries,	Curiosities,
Towns,	Manufactures,	Antiquities,
Roads,	Trade,	Natural
Rivers,	Commerce,	History,

Civil and Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction, &c.

TO WHICH ARE PREFIXED,

*The Direct and Principal Cross Roads,
Distances of Stages, Inns, and
Noblemen and Gentlemen's Seats.*

ALSO

A LIST OF THE MARKETS AND FAIRS,

And an Index Table,

Exhibiting at one View, the Distances of all the Towns from London,
and of Towns from each other:

The whole forming

A COMPLETE COUNTY ITINERARY.

BY G. A. COOKE, ESQ.

Illustrated with a

MAP OF THE COUNTY.

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FOR

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A TABLE

OF THE

PRINCIPAL TOWNS IN THE COUNTY,

*Their distance from London, Markets, Houses, and
Inhabitants, with the time of the arrival
and departure of the Post.*

Towns.	Dis.	Mark.	Houses	Inhab.	Post arrives	Post departs.
Bromyard	125	M.	571	2769	4 aft.	8 morn
Dorstone	144		138	591		
Hereford	135	W.F.S.	1763	9090	6 $\frac{1}{2}$ aft.	5 morn
Kingsland	141		196	989		
Kington	155	Wed.	505	2813	8 morn	5 aft.
Ledbury	120	Tues.	614	3476	4 aft.	8 $\frac{3}{4}$ m.
Leominster	137	Friday	968	4646	6 aft.	6 morn
Longtown	146		158	842	4 $\frac{3}{4}$ aft.	6 morn
Orleton	142		110	574	$\frac{1}{2}$ aft.	6 morn
Pembridge	150		267	1203		
Ross	124	Thurs.	585	2957	4 $\frac{1}{2}$ aft.	9 $\frac{1}{2}$ m.
Weobly	147	Thurs.	159	739	9 aft.	6 morn

The price of postage for a single letter varies from 9d. to 1s. throughout the county.

INDEX OF COMPUTED DISTANCES FROM TOWN TO TOWN IN THE COUNTY OF HEREFORD.

The names of the respective Towns are on the top and sides, and
the square where both meet give the distance.

	Bromyard		Distant from London					Miles	125	
Hereford	...	14	Hereford	...	...	...	...	...	135
Kington	31	19	Kington	...	...	...	...	155	
Ledbury...	...	13	16	35	Ledbury	...	...	...	120
Leominster	...	11	13	21	24	Leominster	...	...	137
Pembridge	...	19	15	6	29	7	Pembridge	...	150	
Ross	...	26	14	33	13	27	29	Ross	124	
Weobly	19	11	8	27	9	5	25	Weobly	147

INSPECTION TABLE FOR THE COUNTY OF HEREFORD.

<i>Bounded by</i>	<i>Extent.</i>	<i>Contain.</i>	<i>Sends to Parliament.</i>	<i>Produce and Manufactures.</i>
Shropshire on the north.	In length from north to south about 38 miles.	11 Hundreds	8 Members,	The principal produce of this county is apples, wool, wheat, and the unrivalled breed of cattle.
On the east by Worcestershire and Gloucestershire.	In breadth from east to west about 35.	1 City	<i>Viz.</i>	
On the south by Monmouthshire.	In circumference 108 miles.	2 Borough towns	2 for the county	The manufactures (exclusive of making cider) are principally confined to the making hats and gloves, the latter of which is, however, on the decline.
		5 Market towns	2 for the city of Hereford	
		221 Parishes	2 for Leominster	
And on the west by Brecknockshire and Radnorshire.		About 80,000 acres	And 2 for Weobly.	
		20,261 Houses.		
		103,243 Inhabitants		

Herefordshire is in the province of Canterbury, and diocese of Hereford.

AN ITINERARY

OF ALL

THE DIRECT AND PRINCIPAL CROSS ROADS

IN

HEREFORDSHIRE,

In which are included the STAGES, INNS, and
GENTLEMEN'S SEATS.

N. B. The first Column contains the Names of Places passed through ; the Figures that follow shew the Distances from Place to Place, Town to Town, and Stages ; and in the last Column are the names of Gentlemen's Seats and Inns. The right and left of the Roads are distinguished by the letters R and L.

LONDON TO HEREFORD.

Tyburn Turnpike to Bayswater	$\frac{3}{4}$		Kensington Palace, H. R. H. the Duke of Sussex, L. ; at 2 miles distance Holland House, Lord Holland.
Kensington Gravel Pits	$\frac{3}{4}$	$1\frac{1}{2}$	
On L. a T. R. to Kensington.			
Shepherd's Bush	$1\frac{1}{2}$	3	
Acton	2	5	At entrance, see Berrymead Priory, late the seat of E. F. Akers, Esq. L. ; on R. see Friars Place, W. Learmouth, Esq. ; through Acton, Fordbrook House, — Duval, Esq. R.
Ealing Common	1	6	Elm Grove, Lady Carr, L. ; at Ealing, Spencer Perceval, Esq. and the Manor House, — Clifton, Esq. L. ; $\frac{1}{2}$ mile dis- tant, Hanger Hill, George Wood, Esq. ; Hunger Vale, J. R. Wood, Esq. R.
Hanwell	$2\frac{1}{4}$	$8\frac{1}{4}$	
Cross the Brent, R.			Before see Hanwell Park, Sir John Copley ; and Hanwell

			<i>Cottage, Miss Caswall ; and at Hamwell Lawn House, — Lawson, Esq. R.</i>
SOUTHALL	1	9 $\frac{3}{4}$	Inns—Red Lion, White Hart.
Hayes Bridge	1	10 $\frac{1}{4}$	
Cross the Padding- ton Canal.			
Hayes End	2	12 $\frac{1}{2}$	Before see Hayes Park, — Wood, Esq. L. ; Hayes End Park, R. W. Blencowe, Esq. and Hillingdon Place, the Misses Trusler.
Hillingdon	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	13 $\frac{3}{4}$	The Vicarage, Rev. Dr. Hodg- son ; a little farther Hilling- don Grove, — Cricket, Esq. and Hillingdon Lodge, F. Bent, Esq. L.
UXBRIDGE	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	15	Before is Hillingdon House, R. H. Cox, Esq. R. ; entrance of Uxbridge, $\frac{1}{2}$ a mile from the road, Belmont House, R. ; 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ mile distant on L. Cowley Grove, Charles Birch, Esq.
Cross the Coln, R. and the Grand Junction Canal and enter Bucking- hamshire.			Inns—King's Arms, Three Tuns, White Horse.
Neals, Bucks.	$\frac{3}{4}$	15 $\frac{3}{4}$	
Red Hill	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	17 $\frac{1}{4}$	Langley Park, Sir R. B. Har- vey, Bart. L. ; Denham Fishery, J. Drummond, Esq. ; Denham Place, Benjamin Way, Esq. ; Denham Court, F. Lawley, Esq., and Den- ham Mount, N. Snell, Esq. R.
Tatling End	$\frac{3}{4}$	18	Inns—Hare and Hounds.
On R. a T. R. to Amersham			Beyond the 19 mile stone, Wood- hills, W. Budd, Esq. R.
Gerard's Cross	2	20	At Maltman's Green, Mr. Ser- jeant Peuke, R.
			Inns—White Hart, Bull.
BEACONFIELD	3 $\frac{1}{4}$	23 $\frac{1}{4}$	Near is Wilton Park, J. Dupree, Esq. R. ; beyond on L. Hall Barn, Rev. H. Waller.
			Inn—Saracen's Head.

Hotspur Heath	1½	24¼	Inn— <i>The King's Head.</i>
Loudwater	1½	26½	
Wycombe Marsh	1	27¼	Inn— <i>Red Lion.</i>
HIGH WYCOMBE	1¾	29	<i>Wycombe Abbey, Lord Carrington, L.</i>
On R. a T. R. to Amersham, on L. to Great Marlow.			Inn— <i>Red Lion.</i>
West Wycombe	2¾	31¾	<i>Before Wycombe Park, Sir J. Dashwood King, Bart. L.</i>
Ham Farm	¾	32½	
On L. a T. R. to Great Marlow.			
Stoken Church, Oxon	3¾	36¼	<i>Wormsley, J. Fane, Esq. L.; from Stoken Church Hill see in the bottom before you Rowant Aston, T. P. Wickham, Esq.; and nearly opposite Sherburne Castle, Earl of Macclesfield. L.</i>
			Inn— <i>White Hart.</i>
Postcombe	3¼	40½	<i>½ a mile before Lerknor, R. A. Jodrell, L.; Thame Park, Miss Wickham, R.</i>
On R. a T. R. to Thame.			Inn— <i>Plume of Feathers.</i>
Tetsworth	1¾	42¼	Inns— <i>Royal Oak, Swan.</i>
The Three Pigeons	2½	44¾	<i>Great Hastey, — Blackall, Esq. L.; Ricot Park, Earl of Abingdon, and ½ a mile beyond the Three Pigeons at Waterstock, W. H. Ashurst, Esq.</i>
On R. a T. R. to Thame, on L. to Wallingford.			
Wheatley Bridge	2¾	47½	<i>Holton Park, Elisha Biscoe, Esq. R.</i>
Cross the Thame, R.			Inn— <i>Crown.</i>
Wheatley	1	48½	<i>Cuddesden Palace, Bishop of Oxford, R.; 1 mile beyond Wheally on L. Shotover House, George Schutz, Esq.</i>
Over Shotover Hill, on L. a T. R. to Oxford, ¾ mile farther on R. to Islik.			
Headington	3½	52	<i>Sir Joseph Lock; Edward Latimer, Esq., and the Rev. T. Horwood, R.</i>
On L. a T. R. to Wheatley, by Shotover.			Inn— <i>Catherine Wheel.</i>

St. Clement's Turnpike	1½	53½	
On L. a T. R. to Henley. Cross the Charwell, R.			
Oxford	½	54	Inns—Angel, King's Arms, Mitre, Roe Buck, Star.
Cross the Isis, R.			
Botley Hill, Berks	1¾	55¾	Beyond see Wytham Abbey, Earl of Abingdon.
On R. a T. R. to Farringdon.			
Eynsham Bridge	¾	59	
Cross the Isis, R.			
Eynsham, Oxford.	¾	59¾	Eynsham Hall, J. Buxton, Esq.
Newland Turnpike	5	61¾	
On R. a T. R. to Woodstock. Cross the Windrush, R.			
WITNEY	½	65½	Staple Hall Inn.
On L. two T. R.'s to Bampton.			
BURFORD	7	72½	The Priory, W. J. Lenthall, Esq. R.; 2½ miles distant on L. at Bradwell, Broadwall Grove House, W. Hervey, Esq.
On R. a T. R. to Chipping Norton and Stow, on L. to Farringdon and to Cirencester.			Inns—Bull, George.
Little Barrington, Gloucestershire.	2¾	74½	Barrington Park, Lord Dynevor, R.; beyond Little Barrington on L. are Dutton Lodge unoccupied, and Barrington Grove, E. Greenway, Esq.
NORTHLEACH	6¾	81½	Beyond see Stowell Park, Mrs. Hambridge.
On R. a T. R. to Stow; on L. the Footway to Cirencester.			Inns—King's Head, Sherborne Arms.
Frogmill Inn	6¾	88	See from the hill a fine prospect over the rich vale of Evesham, Cheltenham, Tewkesbury, and Worcester, bounded by the Malvern Hills, Frogmill Inn.
On R. a T. R. to Gloucester through Whitcombe; on R. to Stow.			
Dowdeswell	2	90	Sandywell Park, Miss Timbrell R.

10	ITINERARY OF THE	
Charlton Kings	$2\frac{1}{2}$	$92\frac{1}{2}$ Charlton Park, Mrs. Prinn, R.
Cadnall	$3\frac{3}{4}$	$93\frac{3}{4}$
On L. a T. R. to Stroud.		
CHELTENHAM	1	$94\frac{1}{4}$ Georgiana House, E. B. Lind, Esq. R. ; and on the hill Hew- lets, James Agg, Esq.
		Inns—Fleece, George Hotel, Lamb, London Hotel, Plough Hotel.
Bedlam	$1\frac{3}{4}$	96
On R. a T. R. to Tewkesbury, on L. to Heyden's Elm, and again on L. to Cirencester.		
GLOUCESTER	$7\frac{3}{4}$	$103\frac{3}{4}$ A little before see Margaret and Magdalen Hospitals, at Matson, Matson House, Mrs. Niblett. L.
On R. a T. R. to Tewkesbury, on L. to Bath and Bris- tol. Cross the Severn, R. and the Gloucester Canal to		Inns—Bell, Booth Hall, King's Head.
Highnam	$2\frac{1}{4}$	106 Highnam Court, Sir R. W. Guise, Bart. R. ; beyond in the road to Chepstow, High Grove, Mrs. Evans, L.
On R. a T. R. to Newent, on L. to Chepstow		
Churcham	$1\frac{1}{2}$	$107\frac{3}{4}$
Huntley Turnpike	$3\frac{1}{4}$	111
On L. a T. R. to Mitchel Down.		
Durley Cross	$1\frac{3}{4}$	$112\frac{3}{4}$
Longhope	$1\frac{1}{2}$	$114\frac{1}{4}$
On L. a T. R. to Mitchel Dean.		
Lea	$1\frac{1}{2}$	$115\frac{3}{4}$
Ritford, Herefordsh.	$1\frac{1}{2}$	$117\frac{1}{4}$
Weston	1	$118\frac{3}{4}$
Ross	2	$120\frac{1}{4}$ Inns—King's Head, King's Arms, Swan
On R. a T. R. to Ledbury. Cross the Wye, R.		
Wilton	$\frac{3}{4}$	121

On L. a T. R. to Monmouth.			
Peterston	2 $\frac{1}{4}$	123 $\frac{1}{4}$	
Harewood End Inn	3	126 $\frac{1}{4}$	
Great Birch	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	128 $\frac{3}{4}$	1 mile distant, Bryngwin, J. Phillips, Esq. and 1 mile beyond Meend Park, T. H. Symond, Esq. L.
Crossin Hand, T. G.	1 $\frac{3}{4}$	130 $\frac{1}{2}$	
On L. a T. R. to Monmouth.			
Callow	$\frac{3}{4}$	131 $\frac{1}{2}$	
On L. a T. R. to Aberguenny, cross the Wye, R.			
HEREFORD	4	135 $\frac{1}{4}$	Inns—Black Swan, City Arms, Greyhound, Green Dragon Hotel, Mitre.

COMB TO RIFORD,
THROUGH HEREFORD.

Comb to Byton Lane	2	2	One mile and a half beyond Byton Lane, in the road from Mortimer's Cross to Presteign, Shobdon Court, William Hanbury, esq. L.
On L. a T. R. to Leominster, by Shobdon and Ten- bury.			
Cross the Ar- row River			
Pembridge	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	
At Pembridge on R. a T. R. to Kington			
Eardland Road	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	6 $\frac{3}{4}$	
About two miles beyond on L. a T. R. to Leominster, on R. to Hay.			
— — —			Burton Court, W. Evans, esq. L.
Two miles beyond Eardland Road on L. a T. R. to Leo- minster, on L. to Hay.			

Stretford Bridge	3	9 $\frac{3}{4}$	<i>Hide Field, J. Cheese Carpenter, esq. R.</i>
West Hope	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	12 $\frac{1}{4}$	<i>Robin Hood's Butt, ——— R.</i>
New Inn	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	13 $\frac{3}{4}$	<i>At Canon Pyon, Mr. Thomas.</i>
— — —			<i>Tillington Court, Rev. E. Eckley. R. At Burgill, — Biddulph, esq. R.</i>
Three Elms	4 $\frac{3}{4}$	18 $\frac{1}{2}$	
White Cross	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	19 $\frac{3}{4}$	
<i>At White Cross, on R. a T. R. to Weobly, Pembridge, and King-ton</i>			
HEREFORD	1	20 $\frac{3}{4}$	<i>Inns — City Arms Hotel, Green Dragon, Greyhound, Mitre, and Maidenhead.</i>
<i>At Hereford on L. T. R.'s. to Mordiford, Ledbury, Worcester, Bromyard, and Leominster; and a little beyond on R. a T. R. to Abergavenny</i>			
<i>Cross the Wye River to</i>			
Callow	4	24 $\frac{3}{4}$	
Cross in Hand,			
T. G.	3 $\frac{3}{4}$	25 $\frac{1}{2}$	
<i>On R. a T. R. to Monmouth</i>			
Great Birch	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	27 $\frac{1}{4}$	<i>Brydgwin, Jas. Phillips. R.; and a mile beyond is Meend Park, T. P. Symons, esq.</i>
— — —			<i>Aramstone.</i>

Harewood End Inn	} 2 $\frac{1}{2}$	29 $\frac{3}{4}$	Sir Hungerford Hoskins, bart. L.
— — —			Pengethley, Rev. Powell Symonds, L.
Peterstow	3	32 $\frac{3}{4}$	
Wilton	2 $\frac{1}{4}$	35	
At Wilton on R. a T. R. to Mon- mouth.			
Cross the river Wye.			
Ross	$\frac{3}{4}$	35 $\frac{3}{4}$	Hill, Kingsmill Evans, esq. R.
At Ross on L. a T. R. to Ledbury.			
Weston and New- ent	2	37 $\frac{1}{4}$	
Riford	1	38 $\frac{1}{4}$	

LUDFORD BRIDGE TO WELSH NEWTON,

THROUGH LEOMINSTER AND HEREFORD.

Ludford bridge to			Ludford Park, E. L. Char- ton, esq. R.
Overton	2	2	
Bilberry	2	4	
Portway	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	5 $\frac{1}{4}$	
Road to Orleton	$\frac{3}{4}$	6	
On L. a T. R. to Tenbury, on R. to Presteign and Kington.			
Luston	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	8 $\frac{1}{2}$	Berrington, Lady Rodney, L.
Cross the Leo- minster Canal.			
On L. a T. R. to Tenbury.			
Cross the river Lugg.			

LEOMINSTER

 $2\frac{1}{2}$ 11Inns — *Red Lion, King's Arms, Oak.*

*On L. a T. R.
to Bromyard, on
R. to Kington, Hay,
and Presteign.*

Ivington Bridge

 $1\frac{1}{2}$ 12 $\frac{1}{2}$

*Cross the Arrow
River.*

Wharton

 $1\frac{1}{4}$ 13 $\frac{3}{4}$

— — —

*Hampton Court, J. Ark-
wright, esq.*

Hope

 $1\frac{1}{4}$ 15

*Winsley, T. Berrington, esq.
R.*

Dinmore Hill.

1 16

*Burghope, an ancient man-
sion, formerly the seat of
Sir J. D. Goodyere, bart.
R.; and at Dinmore, Rev.
Mr. St. John, R.*

Wellington

 $2\frac{3}{4}$ 18 $\frac{3}{4}$

Morton

 $1\frac{1}{4}$ 20

At Morton, W. Hayton

Holmer

 $2\frac{1}{2}$ 22 $\frac{1}{2}$

HEREFORD

 $4\frac{1}{2}$ 27

Inns — *City Arms Hotel,
Green Dragon, Grey-
hound, Mitre, and Maid-
enhead.*

*At Hereford, on L.
T. R. to Brom-
yard and Worces-
ter; on R. to Hay
and Kington.*

*Cross the river
Wye.*

*On R a T. R.
to Abergavenny.*

Callow

4 31

Cross in Hand,

T. G.

 4 31 $\frac{3}{4}$

*On L. a T. R.
to Ross.*

Wormelow Tump
Inn

 $1\frac{1}{4}$ 33 $\frac{1}{2}$

*Bryngwin, J. Phillips, esq.
R.*

*The Meend, T. Symons, esq.
R. Lyson House, Abra-
ham Whittaker, esq. L.*

St. Weonard's	4	37 $\frac{1}{2}$	Capt. Farmar
Welsh Newton	4 $\frac{1}{4}$	41 $\frac{3}{4}$	

UPPER SAPY TO ALTERINES.

THROUGH BROMYARD AND HEREFORD.

Upper Sapy to			
Tedstone Wafer	2 $\frac{3}{4}$	2 $\frac{3}{4}$	
Sandy Cross	2	4 $\frac{3}{4}$	
On L. a T. R.			
to Clifton			
BROMYARD	2	6 $\frac{3}{4}$	Inns — <i>Falcon, and King's Arms.</i>
On L. a T. R.			
to Worcester, on R			
to Leominster.			
About 3 miles			
beyond Bromyard,			
on L. a T. R. to			
Ledbury.			
Stoke Lacy	4	10 $\frac{3}{4}$	[<i>Westwood</i>
Burley Gate	2	12 $\frac{3}{4}$	<i>At Burley Gate, Mrs</i>
Withington	}	3 $\frac{3}{4}$	<i>H. Unitt, esq.</i>
Marsh		16 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Lugg Bridge	2 $\frac{1}{4}$	18 $\frac{3}{4}$	
Cross the river			
Lugg			
A little beyond			
Lugg Bridge on			
R. a T. R. to Leo-			
minster.			
HEREFORD	2	20 $\frac{3}{4}$	Inns — <i>City Arms Hotel,</i>
			<i>Green Dragon, &c.</i>
			<i>Belmont, J. Matthews, esq.</i>
			<i>L. About four miles be-</i>
			<i>yond Hereford, Allens-</i>
			<i>moor, Edmund B. Pate-</i>
			<i>shall, esq. L.</i>

Goose Pool	$3\frac{3}{4}$	$24\frac{1}{2}$	
Willock's Bridge	$2\frac{1}{4}$	$26\frac{3}{4}$	
Wormbridge	3	$29\frac{3}{4}$	At Wormbridge, E. B.
<i>Cross the Worme River.</i>			Clive, esq.
Kenderchurch	$2\frac{1}{4}$	32	At Kentchurch, Kentchurch
			Park, John Scudamore,
			esq. L.
Pontrilas	$\frac{3}{4}$	$32\frac{3}{4}$	Pontrilas.
<i>Cross the Munnow River</i>			
Rowlston	$1\frac{1}{2}$	$34\frac{1}{4}$	
Alterines	$3\frac{1}{4}$	$37\frac{1}{2}$	

KINGTON TO LITTLE LONDON.

THROUGH HEREFORD AND LEDBURY.

Kington to			
Lion's Hall	3	3	
Bond's Green	$1\frac{1}{2}$	$4\frac{1}{2}$	
<i>About 3 miles beyond Bond's Green on L. a T. R. to Leominster, on R. to Hay.</i>			
— — —			Swansfield House,
			J. W. Weston, esq. R.
WEOBL	4	$8\frac{1}{2}$	Garnston Castle, Sam. Pep-
— — —			loc, esq. R. Grange House,
			R. P. Knight, esq. L.
Wormsley	$3\frac{1}{4}$	$11\frac{3}{4}$	
Brinsop Court	2	$13\frac{3}{4}$	At Brinsop Court,
Tillington	$1\frac{1}{4}$	15	Tillington Court, Rev. E.
			Eckley, L. On R. of
			Credenhill, the Magna
			Castra of the Romans, Rev.
			John Eckley.

			<i>At Burghill, B. Biddulph, esq. L.</i>
Three Elms	$2\frac{3}{4}$	$17\frac{3}{4}$	
<i>On L. a T. R. to Kington.</i>			
White Cross	$1\frac{1}{4}$	19	
HEREFORD	1	20	Inns.— <i>City Arms Hotel, Green Dragon, &c.</i>
Tupsley	$1\frac{1}{2}$	$21\frac{1}{2}$	
<i>Cross the river Lugg.</i>			<i>Newport, Rev. Mr. Lilly, L.</i>
Lugwardine	$1\frac{1}{2}$	23	
Bartestree	$1\frac{1}{2}$	$24\frac{1}{2}$	<i>Longworth, R. Phillips, esq.</i>
<i>Cross the Frome river.</i>			<i>R. From Longworth, see across the river Wye, Ratherwas, C. Bodenham, esq. and Holm, the Duke of Norfolk.</i>
Dormington	$1\frac{1}{2}$	26	<i>Dormington, on R. in the road to Hereford by Mordiford, Sutton Court, James Hereford, esq.</i>
<i>At Dormington on R. a T. R. to Mordiford Bridge.</i>			
Stoke Edith	$1\frac{1}{2}$	$27\frac{1}{2}$	<i>Edward Foley, esq. R.</i>
Torrington	1	$28\frac{1}{2}$	
Pool End	$2\frac{1}{4}$	$30\frac{3}{4}$	
The Trumpets	1	$31\frac{3}{4}$	
Ledbury Mills	3	$34\frac{3}{4}$	
<i>On L. a T. R. to Bromyard.</i>			
LEDBURY.	1	$35\frac{3}{4}$	Inns— <i>George, Feathers.</i>
<i>At Ledbury on L. a T. R. to Worcester, on R. to Ross.</i>			<i>Eastnor Castle, Earl Somers; and in the Colwell road to Great Malvern, Hope End, E. M. Barrett.</i>
Little London	3	$38\frac{3}{4}$	

HEREFORD TO KINGTON,

THROUGH STRETTON.

HEREFORD to White Cross	1	1	
On R. a T. R. to Kingston by Weobly.			
King's Acre, } Green Man }	1 $\frac{3}{4}$	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	
On L. a T. R. to Hay.			
Stretton		3 $\frac{1}{4}$	
Creden Hill	1	4 $\frac{3}{4}$	At the foot of Creden Hill, the Magna Castra of the Romans, Rev. J. Eckley,
Mansel Lacy	2	6 $\frac{3}{4}$	Foxley Hall, Uvedale Price, esq.
Yazor	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	8 $\frac{1}{4}$	
Norton	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	9 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Eccles Green	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	10 $\frac{3}{4}$	
About one mile and a half from Eccles Green on R. a T. R. to Leomin- ster; and half a mile farther on L. to Hay.			
— — —			Sarnsfield House, J. W. Wes- ton, esq. R.
Wonton	3	13 $\frac{3}{4}$	Newport House, — Foley, esq. L.
Lyon's Hall	3 $\frac{1}{4}$	17	Eyewood House, Park, and Woods, Earl of Oxford, near which is Titley Court, William Grenby, Esq. R.
On R. a T. R. to Hereford, by Weobly; and one mile farther a T. R. to Hereford, by Pembroke.			
Pentress	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	18 $\frac{1}{2}$	

*Beyond Pectress
on L. a T. R. to
Hay*

*Cross the Arrow
river.*

KINGTON

1½ 20

Inns—*King's Head, Oxford
Arms.*

HARDWICK COURT TO HEREFORD,

BY HANMER'S CROSS.

Harwick Court
to

Clockmill

Bredwardine

*Cross the Wye
river to*

Hanmer's Cross

*At Hanmer's
Cross on L. a T. R.
to Kington.*

Portway

2 2
3 5

2 7

1¾ 8¾

*At Hardwick, John Stallard,
Esq.*

*Letton Court, J. Blissctt, Esq.
L.*

*Monington, the property of
Sir George Cornwall, Bart.
R.; and on the south side
of the Wye, nearly oppo-
site Mocca Court, Sir George
Cornwall, Bart.*

*Garnons, Sir J. G. Cotterell,
Bart. L.*

Bridge Sollars

New Ware

Sugwas Pool

King's Acre, }

Green Man }

*On L. a T. R. to
Kington by Yazor.*

White Cross

*On L. a T. R. to
Kington, by Wco-
bly.*

2½ 11¼

1¼ 12½

1 13½

1 15

1½ 16½

LAYSTER'S HILL TO CLIFFORD,

THROUGH LEOMINSTER.

Layster's Hill to Kimbolton	2	2	
Stocktonberry			
Cross	2	4	
On R. a T. R. to Ludlow.			
Cross the river			
Lugg.			
LEOMINSTER	2	6	Inns— <i>Red Lion, King's Arms,</i>
On R. a T. R. to Ludlow by Portway, on L. to Hereford.			<i>Oak.</i>
A mile beyond Leominster on R. a T. R. to Presteign.			
Cross the Arrow river.			
Monkland	2½	8½	<i>Burton Court, W. Evans, Esq.</i>
— — —			
Two miles and a half from Monkland on R. a T. R. to Pembridge, on L. to Hereford.			
Great Delwyn	2½	12	<i>Henwood, Lacon Lambe, esq.</i>
— — —			<i>L.</i>
			<i>Newton, Thomas Phillips, esq. R.</i>
Division of the Road	2¾	14¾	
On L. a T. R. to Wobly; and a little farther on R. to Kington			

Sarnsfield	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	16	Sarnsfield Court, J. Webb Weston, esq. R.
On L a T. R. to Hereford, and a little farther on R to Kington,			
Kinnersley	1	17 $\frac{3}{4}$	At Kinnersley, Kinnersley Castle, J. C. Clarke, esq.
Near Willersley on R. a T. R. to Kington, on L. to Hereford.			
Willersley	3 $\frac{3}{4}$	21 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Winforton	1	22 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Whitney	2	24 $\frac{1}{2}$	At Whitney, Whitney Court, T. Dew, esq.
Cross the River Wye.			
Clifford.	2 $\frac{1}{4}$	26 $\frac{3}{4}$	

HEREFORD TO STIFFORD BRIDGE,

THROUGH NEWTON.

Hereford to		
Lugg Bridge	2	2
Cross the River Lugg.		
On L. a T. R. to Bromyard.		
Shucknell	4	6
Newtown	2	8
Eggleton Bridge	1	9
Cross the Lodden River.		
Eggleton	$\frac{1}{4}$	9 $\frac{1}{4}$
Five Bridges	2	11 $\frac{1}{4}$
Cross the Frome River.		
A little farther on L a T. R. to Bromyard.		
Turn on the R and then on the L to		

Fromes Hill	1 $\frac{3}{4}$	13	Rev. J. Hopton.
Ridgeway Cross	3	16	
Stifford Bridge	1	17	
<i>Cross the Crad-</i>			
<i>ley Brook, and en-</i>			
<i>ter Worcestershire.</i>			

LITTLE HEREFORD TO BYTON LANE,
THROUGH ORLETON.

Little Hereford to			
<i>Cross the King-</i>			
<i>ton Canal.</i>			
Brimfield Cross	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	
<i>On R. a T. R. to</i>			
<i>Ludlow.</i>			
Brimfield	$\frac{3}{4}$	2	
<i>At Brimfield on</i>			
<i>L. a T. R. to Leo-</i>			
<i>minster, turn to the</i>			
<i>R. and a little far</i>			
<i>ther on R. to Lud-</i>			
<i>low.</i>			
Orleton	2	4	
<i>Division of the</i>			
<i>Road</i>	$\frac{1}{2}$	4 $\frac{3}{4}$	
<i>On R. a T. R.</i>			
<i>to Ludlow, on L. to</i>			
<i>Leominster.</i>			
Cockgate	2 $\frac{1}{4}$	7	
— — —			<i>At Croft Croft Castle, R. Rev.</i>
			<i>M. Kevill.</i>
Mortimer's Cross	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	9 $\frac{1}{2}$	
<i>On L. a T. R.</i>			
<i>to Leominster, on</i>			
<i>R. to Ludlow.</i>			
Easthampton	1	10 $\frac{1}{2}$	
— — —			<i>Shobdon Court, Wm. Han-</i>
			<i>bury, esq. L.</i>
Byton, Lane	1 $\frac{3}{4}$	12 $\frac{1}{4}$	

On L. a T. R.
to Leominster, by
Shobdon on R. to
Presteign,

ASTON TO STAPLETON CASTLE,
THROUGH LENTHALL.

Aston to			Downton Castle, T. R. Knight, esq. R.
Elton	$\frac{3}{4}$	$\frac{3}{4}$	
Lenthall	$1\frac{3}{4}$	$2\frac{1}{2}$	
Wigmore	$1\frac{1}{2}$	4	At Wigmore, Wigmore Hall, and about two miles to the L. Croft Castle, Rev. M. Kevill.
On L. a T. R. to Mortimer's Cross.			
Dickendale .	$1\frac{3}{4}$	$5\frac{3}{4}$	
Over Darvold Forest to			
Lyngen	$2\frac{1}{4}$	8	
Willey Cross	$1\frac{1}{2}$	$9\frac{1}{2}$	
Stapleton Castle	$1\frac{3}{4}$	$11\frac{1}{4}$	

LIST OF FAIRS IN HEREFORDSHIRE.

Brampton. June 22, for horned cattle, horses, sheep, and wool.

Bromyard. A great market, last Monday in January; Thursday before March 25, horned cattle and horses; May 3, Whit-Monday, Thursday before St. James, July 25; Thursday before October 29, for horned cattle and sheep.

Dorstone. April 27, May 18, September 27, November 18, for horned cattle, horses, sheep, and pigs.

Hereford. Tuesday after Candlemas, February 2, for horned cattle, horses, and hops; Wednesday in Easter-week, horned cattle and horses; May 19, a pleasure fair and toys; July 1, horned cattle and wool; Oct. 20, horned cattle, cheese, and Welsh butter; Great market, Wednesday after St. Andrew's-day.

Huntingdon. July 18, November 13, pedlary, horned cattle, horses, sheep, lambs, and a great fair for yarn.

Kingsland. October 11, for horned cattle, horses, hops, cheese, and butter.

Kington, or Kyneton. Wednesday before February 2 and Wednesday before Easter, Whit-Monday, August 2, September 4, for horses and cattle of all sorts.

Ledbury. First Monday after February 1, for horses, cattle, pigs, sheep, &c.; Monday before Easter, May 12, for horned cattle and cheese; June 22, ditto and wool; October 2, horned cattle, hops, cheese, and pigs; Monday before St. Thomas, Dec. 21, horned cattle, cheese, and fat hogs.

Leominster. February 13, Tuesday after Mid-Lent

Sunday, May 2, for horned cattle and horses; July 10, for horned cattle, horses, wool, and Welsh butter; September 4, for horned cattle, horses, and butter; November 8, for horned cattle, hops, and butter; Great market third Friday in December.

Longtowne, near *Bishop's Castle*. April 29, and September 21.

Leintwardine. Wednesday week before Easter.

Orleton. April 24, for horned cattle.

Pembridge. May 12, Nov. 22, for horned cattle.

Ross. Holy Thursday, horned cattle and sheep; Corpus Christi, for horned cattle and cheese; July 20, horned cattle, horses, sheep, and wool; Thursday after October 10, for horned cattle, cheese, and butter; December 11, horned cattle and pigs.

Weobly. Holy Thursday, for horned cattle and horses; three weeks after Holy Thursday, for ditto and coarse linen cloth.

Wigmore, near *Bromyard*. April 16, May 6, August 5, for horned cattle, horses, and sheep.

LIST

OF

BANKING HOUSES IN THE COUNTY.

<i>Name and Place.</i>	<i>Firm.</i>	<i>On whom they draw.</i>
Hereford City Old Bank... ..	} Webb and Co...	} Cocks and Co.
Hereford City & County Bank..	} Bodenham, Phi- lips, and Co.,	} Perring and Co.
Leominster.	} Coleman, Smith, and Co.	} Lubbock and Co.
Ledbury and He- refordshire. ..	} Webb and Co	} Cocks and Co.

TITLES

CONFERRED BY THE COUNTY.

Hereford is a Bishop's See, and gives the title of Viscount to the Devereux family—*Leominster* gives that of Baron to the Fermors—*Ross* the same to the Herberts: Wilton Castle, that of Earl, Viscount, and Baron, to the Egertons.

CIVIL AND ECCLESIASTICAL DIVISIONS.

Herefordshire is divided into eleven hundreds:—Wigmore, Woolphy, Huntingdon, Stretford, Broxash, Gremworth, Euras Lacy, Webtree, Ludlow, Wormelow, and Greytree; these are subdivided into 221 parishes, containing one city, (Hereford) two borough towns, Leominster and Weobly, and five other market towns. It is included in the Oxford circuit, in the province of Canterbury, and diocese of Hereford.

The Bishopric of Hereford contains the greatest part of Salop, four parishes in the county of Monmouth, six churches and chapels in Montgomeryshire, eight in the county of Radnor, twenty-one in that of Worcester, and the whole county of Hereford, with the exception of eleven parishes, making in all, 379 churches and chapels, 166 of which are impropriate.

THE QUARTER SESSIONS.

These are held at the New County Hall, at Hereford, where the assizes for the county courts are holden.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE COUNTY OF HEREFORD.

BOUNDARIES AND EXTENT.

HEREFORDSHIRE is bounded on the north by Shropshire; on the north-east and east, by Worcestershire; on the south-east, by Gloucestershire; on the south-west by Monmouthshire; on the west by Brecknockshire; and on the north-west by Radnorshire. It is of an elliptical form, though some detached parishes are situated beyond the general outlines; of these, Farlow is sounded by Shropshire; Rochford is in the county of Worcester, and Lytton Hill is in that of Radnor; a considerable tract of land, called the Futhong, and a few acres on the Devandin Hill, is insulated by Monmouthshire. The greatest extent of this county, from Ludford on the north, to the opposite border, near Monmouth on the south, is 38 miles, and its greatest width, from Clifford on the west, to Cradley on the east, is 35 miles, its circumference being about 108 miles, and containing about 800,000 acres.

SOIL.

The soil of this county is extremely fertile, yielding fine pasture, and great quantities of corn, &c. Its general character is a mixture of marle and clay, containing a large proportion of calcareous earth. The substrata is mostly lime-stone, of different qualities; in some parts, particularly near Ledbury, assuming the properties of marble, and being beautifully variegated with red and white veins. Towards the western borders the soil is cold, being retentive of moisture, but argillaceous, having a base of soft crumbling stone, which decomposes on exposure to the atmosphere. The eastern side of the county consists principally of a stiff clay, of great tenacity and strength, and in some places of a red colour; a

considerable part of the hundred of Wormelow, which lies to the south, is a light sand. In the vicinity of Hereford, deep beds of gravel are occasionally met with, and the sub-soil of some of the hills consists of a siliceous grit. Fuller's earth is dug near Stoke, and in different parts of the county, red and yellow ochres, and tobacco-pipe clay, are found in small quantities. On the parts bordering on Gloucestershire, iron ore has been frequently met with, though none has been dug of late years; yet from the considerable quantities that have been discovered, imperfectly smelted, and from the remains of hand blomaries, which have been found, it is supposed that some iron-works were established here as early as the time of the Romans.

CLIMATE.

The air of this county is in general pure, and consequently healthy, particularly between the Wye and the Severn, which has given occasion to a proverb very common among the inhabitants of this county, "Blessed is the eye between Severn and Wye."

NAME AND ANCIENT HISTORY.

This county takes its name from the city of Hereford, which is said to be pure Saxon, and to signify, *the Ford of the army*; or from the Welsh word *Hênfford* (the old road, or way.) Either supposition, certainly, is significant of the situation of the place, which stands on the Wye, and was formerly the barrier between England and Wales. As the two nations were almost always at war one with another, this town was generally the head quarters of such Saxon or English forces as were stationed in the county; and at this place both armies probably forded the river, when they passed out of Wales into England, or out of England into Wales. This account of the derivation of the name is, however, somewhat doubtful, as the ancient British name of the county was *Ercinuc*; and it is therefore conjectured that *Here*, the first part of the

Saxon name, was implicitly borrowed from Erei, the first part of the British; so that except Erei in British, and Here in Saxon, have the same signification, Hereford was not intended to express the ford of the army. What Erienuc signifies is not known, but the Saxons probably only changed the termination, and called the place the ford of Erie, considering Erie not as a significant word, but the proper name of the place. Some, however, have supposed that both the British and Saxon names were derived from Ariconium, the name of an ancient town near this place, mentioned by Antoninus, which is said to have been destroyed by an earthquake, and Hereford to have been built in its stead. Another derivation is assigned to Hereford by the author of the Leominster Guide. After the town had been destroyed by the Welsh, Harold is recorded to have built the walls of the city, and to have strengthened the castle, and after him the place, which is now often termed *Hariford* by the peasantry, was called *Haroldford*, signifying *Harold's Fort*, or *Castle*.

Herefordshire, together with Radnorshire, Brecknockshire, Monmouthshire, and Glamorganshire in Wales, constitute that district which at the period of the Roman invasion was inhabited by the *Silures*, a brave and hardy people, who, in conjunction with the *Ordovices*, or inhabitants of North Wales, for a considerable time retarded the progress of the Roman arms; for it appears that the grand object of all the operations of Ostorius Scapula, who commanded under the Emperor Claudius, was the conquest of these nations, which had chosen the brave Caractacus as their chieftain.

Aulus Plautius, the predecessor of Ostorius, had constructed in the vicinity of the Severn and the Avon, a chain of forts, which, on the arrival of Ostorius, appears to have been occupied by the Roman army, previous to which the country of the Silures and Ordovices had suffered no diminution from the Roman arms; " the frontier of the one, now the

county of Hereford, (says Mr. Duncomb) met the frontier of the other, Shropshire, on the border of the present county of Worcester; and there presented the nearest, if not the only point of attack, from which Ostorius could make an impression on both nations, or take advantage of circumstances to act against either. This geographical statement has led to a conjecture, that a line of entrenchments, extending on the banks of the river Teme, from the vicinity of Worcester, to the scene of the subsequent battle, was occupied by Caractacus and Ostorius, the former retreating as the latter advanced; and thus drawing on the Romans to a place advantageously formed for defence, and as much as possible detached from any assistance which might be afforded to them in case of their defeat, or any other emergency.

“This line is supposed to have begun on Malvern Hills, where British and Roman entrenchments are still to be seen. The two next, the one Roman the other British, occurred at Whitburn; they were situated on the opposite sides of a valley, as if opposed to each other; but the traces of both are now almost obliterated. The fourth is at Thornbury, a British post of great strength, between Bromyard and Leominster. The fifth at Croft, another very strong British camp, between Leominster and Wigmore. The sixth is a large Roman entrenchment, called Brandon; and the seventh, which is British, is on *Coxwall-Knoll*, near Brampton-Bryan. Near Downton, also, on the east of Leintwardine, is a small entrenchment, which was apparently thrown up to guard the passage of the Teme, at that place; and was probably connected with the operations supposed to have taken place on the line above mentioned.

“Recurring to the proceedings of the Britons, we learn from Tacitus, that, in addition to their natural valour, they were now animated by confidence in a leader, whom neither prosperity could

unguard, nor adversity deject; and whose fame had far surpassed that of all his cotemporaries. Inferior in numbers, but trusting to his own military skill and knowledge of the country, Caractacus determined that the territories of the Ordovices should be the scene of his defence; and the spot which he finally chose for the struggle, is described by the historian as in all respects discouraging to his enemies, and favourable to himself. Where nature had not rendered the eminence inaccessible, he piled large stones on each other in the form of a rampart; a stream of a regular depth flowed in his front, and a strong body of troops were stationed on the outside of his works in battle array. The leaders of the various tribes prepared them for the contest, by exciting their hopes, by inflaming their resentments, and by urging every motive, that could animate their valour. Caractacus himself, darting through the ranks, exclaimed, ‘Remember, Britons, this day is to decide, whether we shall be slaves or free! Recollect and imitate the achievements of our ancestors, whose valour expelled Julius Cæsar from our coasts, rescued their country from paying tribute to foreigners, and saved their wives and their daughters from infamy and violation!’ Inflamed by this address, everyone shouted applause, and bound themselves, by their peculiar oaths, to conquer or perish.

“Ostorius was staggered by the resolute appearance and formidable position of his adversaries; but his troops eagerly demanded battle, and exclaimed that Roman valour could surmount every obstacle. Observing, therefore, what points were most proper for the attack, he led on his army, and forded the river without difficulty: but, before they could reach the rampart of stone, the Romans suffered severely from the darts of the Britons, and success long appeared doubtful. At length, forming the testudo, or shell, by locking their shields together over their heads, they reached the wall, and making several breaches in it, brought on a close

engagement. Unprovided with helmets or breastplates, the Britons could not withstand the attack, but fell back towards the summit of the hill; a few desperate efforts from this point could not avail them, and victory declared for the Romans. The wife and daughter of Caractacus were taken on the field of battle; and his brothers surrendered themselves prisoners; he himself escaped into the country of the Brigantes, and claimed the protection of their queen, Cartismandua; but dreading the resentment of the Romans, which had been recently directed against her territories, she was induced to deliver him bound to Ostorius."

Antiquaries and historians have greatly differed respecting the spot on which this important battle was fought; according to Camden, it took place on the high eminence called *Caer-Caradock*, in Shropshire, about three miles north from the Teme, near the junction of the Jay and the Coln with that river. General Roy, however, in his military antiquities, originally suggested the real scene of this action to have been at Coxwall Knoll, which idea is likewise adopted by Mr. Duncomb, who observes, that the situation, and other circumstances of this eminence, strikingly correspond with the account given by the Roman historians.

"Coxwall Knoll (he continues) is situated in a beautiful valley, near Brampton Bryan; it is luxuriantly covered with wood; one part of it, that towards the south, is within the limits of Herefordshire, whilst that towards the north is within those of Shropshire. On the top is a very strong entrenchment, of British construction, and of much greater extent than that at *Caer-Caradock*. The access is difficult on all sides; on the south an artificial terrace is cut along the brow of the hill in front of the entrenchments; and the river Teme continually varies in its depth and impetuosity, according to the proportion of rain received into its channel from the adjacent hills. Immediately opposite, and at the

distance of one mile, with the river between them, is the Roman post of Brandon, a single square work, with four posts, more strong towards Coxwall than in any other part.

“ In the supposed line of march by Caractacus, and Ostorius, the latter would occupy Brandon, when the former had retreated to Coxwall. Thus situated, the formidable situation of the Britons, and the obstacles to be encountered in attacking them, were all within view of the Romans : they demanded and were led to the combat : fording the river, they reached the rampart, which probably stood on the artificial terrace described by General Roy, and finally defeated the Britons in the entrenchments above. To these conjectures, which are offered with the utmost deference, it may be opposed, that the Teme near Coxwall is but an inconsiderable river, having a smooth and gravelly bottom, and so little water, except when flooded from the hills, that troops may march across it in line for two or three miles together. To this it is replied, that all rivers suffer some decrease, in proportion as the country through which they pass becomes more cultivated ; that the words of Tacitus, ‘ *præfluebat amnis vado incerto*,’ evidently apply to a river subject to frequent variations ; that no difficulties were experienced when the fording took place, ‘ *amnenque haud difficulter avadit* ;’ and that probably the Romans exaggerated the obstacles to increase their own reputation.”

A temporary suspension of the war was produced by the defeat and captivity of Caractacus ; but the determined spirits of the Silures, were, however, not yet subdued ; for, after a short interval of preparation, they again took the field, and by their sudden attacks, whenever circumstances afforded a prospect of success, they kept the Romans in perpetual alarm ; they were likewise rendered desperate by a declaration of Ostorius, that the very name of the Silures should be extirpated, as that of

the Sigambri had been in Gaul; so far, however, was the purpose of this general from being accomplished, that he himself fell a victim to the fatigue and anxiety occasioned by the increased success of the Silurian arms.

Neither coercion nor clemency, during the various successive proprætorships for upwards of 20 years, were able to reduce the Silures to Roman bondage; at length, however, the superior discipline of the Roman soldiers, aided by the military talents of Julius Frontinus, their general, obliged this brave people, after relinquishing to the enemy the Forest of Dean, and the present counties of Hereford and Monmouth, to retire into the fastnesses of Wales, from whence, offering no farther resistance to the Roman domination, the complete and undisturbed possession of South Britain was thus insured to the conquerors, who included Herefordshire in the district named *Britannia Secunda*.

Magna, now Kenchester,* and *Ariconium*, near Ross, two of the principal stations of the Itinerary of Antoninus, together with the post of Bravinum, or Brandon, are situated within the limits of this county. The Watling street also enters it on the north from Shropshire, near Leintwardine, whence, after passing the river 'Teme, it proceeds to the camp of Brandon, and continuing in a southern direction passes by Wigmore, Mortimer's Cross, Street, Stretford, and Portway, to Kenchester, from whence inclining to the south-west, after crossing the river Wye, near the Wear, and passing Kington, Dore, and Long-town, enters Monmouthshire and proceeds to Abergavenny, the Gobannium of the Romans: this road is very visible near Madley; and several

* In the fields now under cultivation, (belonging to Mr. Hardwick, of Ludenhill) at Kenchester, the remains of Roman pottery, coins, &c. are often ploughed up, and a tessellated pavement, in an imperfect state, was discovered a few years ago.

entrenchments likewise occur in different parts of the line as it crosses Herefordshire. A second Roman road enters this county on the south east from Gloucestershire, which appears to have connected the stations of Glevum, or Gloucester, *Ariconium Blestium*, or Monmouth, and *Burrium*, or Usk. A third Roman road enters this county from Worcestershire, and passing Frome Hill, Stretton-Gransham, or Grandison, Lugg-bridge, Holmer, and Stretton-Sugwas, proceeds to Kenchester; and to the south of the Herefordshire Beacon, is a fourth ancient road, called the Ridgeway, which extends for several miles towards Eastnor in a kind of circular direction.

The Silures, on the decline of the Roman power, were among the first in attempting to regain that independence which they had been the last in surrendering; for uniting with the other Britons, under the successive commands of Uther Pendragon, and Arthur, they once more displayed their bravery in defending the island from Saxon usurpation: their resistance, however, proved unavailing, in consequence of the numerous hordes of these barbarians, which were continually landing upon our shores, and the internal divisions, that subsisted among the natives; so that the Britons being driven to the mountains of Wales, Herefordshire became incorporated with the Saxon kingdom of Mercia; this however, was not effected till the Saxon power in this district had arrived at its greatest height, under the renowned Offa, who, the better to secure his kingdom, which comprehended the greatest part of this county, together with considerable portions of Radnorshire, Monmouthshire, and Shropshire, made a broad ditch, 100 miles in length, some traces of which are still visible; and for still greater security he removed his court to South-town, now Sutton, about three miles north-west from Hereford, where he erected a palace, which he defended end of the entrenchments. The Danes, about the end of the

eighth century, obtained a temporary possession of Mercia, but were expelled by Benthred, the lawful prince, who, after a reign of about 20 years, was himself defeated by these invaders, and deprived of his kingdom; which was soon afterwards subdued by Alured, king of the West Saxons, who annexed it to his own, and chose as his successor Egbert, who having united the various Saxon states into one sovereignty, thus laid the foundation of the glory and pre-eminence of Britain. Herefordshire, however, during the wars which occurred, between the time of the reign of this prince, and the complete subjugation of Wales, suffered greatly from the different incursions made by the brave descendants of the ancient Britons at various periods.

POPULATION, &c.

The population of this county consisted, according to the late returns, of 103,243 inhabitants. Herefordshire returns eight members to parliament; viz. two for the county, two for the city of Hereford, two for Leominster, and two for Weobly.

RIVERS AND CANALS.

An act of parliament was obtained in 1791, for making a navigable canal from the city of Hereford by the town of Ledbury, to the Severn, at Gloucester, with a lateral cut to the collieries at Newent. The advantages proposed, were an easy communication between the county of Hereford and the ports of Bristol, Liverpool, and Hull; and also parts of South Wales, and those ports, besides easy access to large and valuable mines of coal, and quarries of lime-stone, as well as improvement of lands and estates in the vicinity of the intended line of the canal. The money was to be raised by subscription shares, and the expense of completing the canal, was estimated, by the surveyor, at 69,000*l*. But this estimate was so erroneous, that after 100,000*l*. had been expended, the design was not half completed; the canal terminating at Ledbury, and the loss, to the subscribers, was very considerable. An

act for another canal, to extend from Kington to Leominster, and thence to Stourport, was obtained soon after the former one. Lime and coal from Shropshire, were stated the principal objects of importation, and the produce of the county, those for export. The expense between Kington and Leominster was estimated at 87,000*l.*, and between Leominster and Stourport, at 83,000*l.* A part of the extent between Leominster and Stourport was completed in 1796, without reaching so far as Stourport, and has been found very advantageous to the country through which the canal passes. A miscalculation of the expenses, similar to that of the other canal, prevented the completion of the design.

The principal rivers and streams of Herefordshire are, the Wye, the Lug, the Munnaw, the Arrow, the Frome, the Teme, and the Leddon. Of these the Wye is the most beneficial to the immediate purposes of agriculture, in the conveyance of wheat and flour to Bristol, of coal for burning limestone, and also in the conveyance of lime from the kiln to distant parts of the county. The Wye is called, in the British language, *Gwy*, and in the Latin, *Vaga*, from the frequent variations of its course.

“Meander, who is said so intricate to be,

“Has not so many turns and crankling nooks as she.”

“Pleas’d *Vaga* echoes through her winding bounds,

“And rapid *Severn* hoarse applause resounds.”

About the year 939, Athelstan having reduced the Britons to a temporary subjection, appointed the river Wye to be the boundary between England and Wales. And to this day, the Welsh side abounds with names of places derived from the British language, whilst they rarely occur on the other: “*Inde vagos Vaga Cambrenses, hinc respicit Anglos.*” The Wye rises, as well as the Severn, near the summit of the mountain of Plimlimmon, in Montgomeryshire, and having divided the counties of Breck

nock and Radnor, it enters that of Hereford, near the Hay, between the parishes of Whitney and Clifford.

The barges used on the Wye, which is navigable to Hereford, are from eighteen to forty tons burthen; but either a large or a small supply of water is equally fatal to the navigation. "The latter, (says Mr. Duncomb) is experienced during the greater part of every dry summer, when shoals barely covered with the stream, occur very frequently; in winter, heavy rains, or snow dissolving on the rivers banks, within the county, have the effect of gradually adding a few inches to the depth; but when these rush into its channel, from the mountains of Brecknock and Radnorshire, they occasion an almost instantaneous overflow, and give it a force which defies all the ordinary means of resistance.

Passing Hereford, Ross, Monmouth, and Chepstow, it is received into the channel of the Severn, having watered and adorned a tract of this county from forty to fifty miles in extent, not only equal in its varied beauties to any scenery of a similar kind in England, but worthy perhaps to be compared with the most admired views on the continent. These beauties have been delineated by so many able writers, such as Mr. Mason, Mr. Gilpin, Mr. Ireland, and others, that it is not attempted to detail them here. The general character of the river, between Whitney and Hereford, is mild and pleasing, consisting of delightful reaches, with the most agreeable landscapes and luxuriant scenery on their sides. From Hereford to Ross its features occasionally assume more of boldness; but under Capellar-hill, and between Caple and Fawley, the reaches are again strikingly beautiful.

Approaching Goodrick Castle, between Ross, and Monmouth, a peninsula seven miles in extent is formed by the circuit of the river, whilst the neck of land reaches only one mile between the opposite points.—New and pleasing objects now rapidly succeed each other; and the romantic village of Whit-

church, stupendous hills, and hanging rocks, exhibit altogether a climax of beauties picturesque, sublime, and terrific.

The principal fish taken in the Wye is the salmon, which is well known to leave the sea at various periods, and penetrate, as far as is practicable, towards the sources of the greater rivers, where they deposit their spawn secure from the ebbing and flowing of the tides. Other motives appear also to attract them, as the season of coming is not confined to that of spawning, nor does it seem to depend, in any particular degree, on a greater supply of food than usual; an occasional change of water is probably grateful, if not essential to them. They are found in the Wye at all times, but they are only in perfection from December to August. Their passage up the stream is at present so much obstructed by weirs, that unless the water is swelled far above its usual height, they cannot advance. This circumstance, and the illegal practice of taking the young salmons, provincially termed last springs, have rendered them much less plentiful than formerly, when they abounded in this river.

The price of salmon in Hereford market was formerly one penny per pound; it now varies from eight-pence to half-a-crown, according to the time and other circumstances. The degrees of perfection in which they are taken, vary not only with the season, but also in proportion to the time elapsed since they have quitted the sea. After a short continuance in fresh water, they tend rapidly to impoverishment; and as they are stationary at no other time, but when there is not a sufficient stream to admit of their proceeding, a moderate swell puts the *new fish* in motion, and enables the fishermen to calculate their approach with considerable accuracy. They are very rarely found to advance against a current of very cold or very hard water; when, therefore, the Wye is swelled by snow dissolving in large quantities from the sides of the mountains to

wards its source, which occasionally happens as late as April, or even May, all attempts to take them are suspended for the time. Nor are they frequently intercepted by the fishermen, when returning to the sea, as it is known that the voyage which they have performed has deprived them of their principal value ; and in this state they are denominated *old fish*. The spawn, deposited in the river, produces fish of a very minute size, which about April becomes as heavy as a gudgeon, but more taper and delicate in their form ; these are in some parts termed salmon-fry, or salmon-pinks, but are here known by the name of *last-springs*, from the date of their annual appearance, and are readily taken by the artificial fly. And if this mode of catching them was alone resorted to, the supply of salmon would probably be far more abundant than it now is. Two kinds of last-springs are found in the Wye ; the one, which is the larger and more common sort, leaves the river during the spring floods ; the other is termed the gravel last-spring, and is met with particularly on shoals, during the whole of the summer. The general opinion is, that the last-springs, having made a voyage to the sea, return *botchers* in the beginning of the following summer. Botchers are taken from three to twelve pounds weight ; they are distinguished from the salmon by a smaller head, more silvery scales, and by retaining much of the delicate appearance of the last-spring. In the third year they become salmons, and often weigh from forty to fifty pounds each. These are generally received opinions respecting the progress of the last-spring to the botcher and salmon ; but it must not be omitted, that some able naturalists of the present time contend, that the last spring and botcher are each distinct in their species from the salmon, and that the botcher resembles the *saun* taken in the Welsh rivers, or even that it is the same fish. A question has also been suggested, whether the gravel last-spring may not proceed from the botcher.

Other sea fish occasionally taken in the Wye are, shad, flounders, lampreys, and lamperns; but none of these are met with frequently, or in abundance. A shoal of shad is generally the forerunner of a shoal of salmon; flounders have been caught from February to May; the season for lamperns is during March and April; and that of lampreys, May and June. The lamprey, which is highly esteemed as a delicacy, removes the pebbles from particular spots in the most rapid stream, and thus forms a very insecure retreat, which is provincially termed a *bed*; and in these they are taken with a spear. The female is of a rounder form than the male, and contains a large quantity of spawn, which is deposited in the bed, and fecundated after passing through the body of the fish. The lamprey appears to possess an internal heat, equal perhaps to terrestrial animals.

Besides these, the Wye has the usual kinds of river-fish, including pike, grayling, trout, perch, eels, and gudgeons.

The river Lug rises in Radnorshire, and entering Herefordshire on the north-west border near Stapleton castle, in the hundred of Wigmore, is almost immediately augmented by a stream called the *Wadel*; when taking a direction nearly east, it receives the *Pinsley* (once the *Oney*), at Leominster. Inclining afterwards towards the south, it is aided by the more considerable stream of the Arrow, between Eaton and Stoke, in the hundred of Wolphy, and of Frome, between Lugwardine and Mordiford. The whole is after received by the Wye, immediately below the pleasant village of Mordiford, after passing a fine and fertile part of the county, about thirty miles in extent, without calculating the circumflexions in its course. The Lug is in general too narrow and too much sunk within its banks to be an object of beauty: in some other respects it resembles the Wye, being impatient of control, and liable to sudden overflow, not solely from causes common to most rivers, but also from being dammed

up, or driven back by the higher current of the Wye, at the point of their junction.

A similar inconvenience, with respect to navigation, is experienced when the Lug is swelled by partial rains, which have not equally affected the Wye; a rapidity and force are then given to the Lug in its discharge into the Wye, which it will probably be ever difficult to restrain or correct. An Act of Parliament passed in 1663, and a second about thirty years after, for the purpose of rendering the Lug navigable, but unforeseen difficulties arose, and nothing was effected. A private subscription was applied in the year 1714, with more success for a time, and a few barges navigated as far as Leominster: but either from want of skill in the architect, or from the obstacles before stated, a high flood, which followed soon afterwards, so materially injured the locks and all that had been done, that no attempts to repair or renew the works have been subsequently made. The several kinds of river-fish found in the Wye are also taken in the Lug; but, although the channel of each is particularly deep where they join, the sea-fish common to the Wye are rarely met with in the Lug. This is perhaps to be attributed to a greater degree of cold and hardness in the water of the latter.

The Munnow rises on the east or Herefordshire side of the Hattrel mountains, and is joined near Longtown in the hundred of Ewyas Lacy, by the Escle and Olchon, which have their sources not far from that of the Munnow. Watering a sequestered and pleasant vale in a direction nearly from north to south, it receives at Alteryannis (formerly the seat of the Cecil family), a brook anciently termed the Bothenay, according to Dugdale, but now styled the Hothney, which springs above the once-celebrated abbey of Llanthony, and still flows by its venerable remains. Leaving Alteryannis, the Munnow becomes the boundary between this county and that of Monmouth, receiving near Pontilas the united

streams of the Dore and the Worme; the former of which rises at Dorston (Dore-town) in the hundred of Webtree, and intersects a rich and beautiful valley; the latter rises near Alansmoor in the same hundred. With these aids the Munnow becomes a considerable river, and continues to be the provincial boundary, until it passes Llanrothal, in Wormelow hundred, when it leaves Herefordshire, and flowing by Monmouth, is received by the Wye immediately below the town.

Trout, gudgeons, eels, and cray-fish, are taken in the Munnow.

The Arrow has its source in Radnorshire, and entering this county near Kington, joins the Lug a few miles below Leominster; the name is said to be derived from the swiftness of its current. Its fish are trout, grayling, and cray-fish.

The Frome rises near Wolfrelow, in the hundred of Broxash, and being joined near Stretton-Grandison, by the Loden from Grendon Bishop, Cowarne, &c is received by the Lug near Mordiford. It is liable to frequent and sudden floods. Trout are its principal fish.

The Teme, or Team, enters Herefordshire from the north-west near Brampton Bryan, and passes alternately through parts of this county and Shropshire. Near Tenbury (Temebury) it makes a more considerable circuit into Worcestershire, and returning to Whitbourn, below the town of Bromyard, and receiving a small brook from Sapey, it finally quits Herefordshire immediately after, and discharges itself into the Severn between Malvern-chase and Woobury hill, in the county of Worcester. Pearls have occasionally been found in the muscle-shell of the Teme; and a small fish resembling a last-spring, but weighing about one-third of a pound, and consequently much larger than the last-spring, frequents this river.

The Leadon, or Leddon, rises above Bosbury, in Radlow hundred, gives name to the town of Led-

bury, which it passes, and entering Gloucestershire, becomes tributary to the Severn soon after. It is thus curiously personified and described by Drayton in the seventh song of his *Polyolbion* :

“ Ledon, which her way doth through the desert make,

Though near to Dene ally'd, determined to forsake
Her course, and her clear lims among the bushes hide,
Lest by Sylvans, (should she chance to be espide)
She might unmaiden'd go unto the sovereign flood !
So many were the rapes done on the watery brood,
That Sabrina to her sire great Neptune forc'd to sue,
The ryots to repress of this outrageous crue.”

A variety of inferior brooks come in aid of the rivers and streams noticed above, many of which contribute to the public benefit by turning mills for grinding corn, and some are useful in the way of irrigation. The Garran and the Gamar abound with cray-fish.

Some springs on the Herefordshire side of Malvern hills, were formerly deemed medicinal, and obtained the flattering name of holy wells. Several petrifying springs are still met with in those hilly parts that contain limestone, near Moccas, Fownhope, Llanrothal, and Wormesley. A small well, near Richard's Castle, in Wolphey hundred, discharges small bones when disturbed, resembling the back-bones of the frog.

ROADS.

These were once proverbially bad, and are still. A modern writer has, notwithstanding, observed, that Herefordshire abounds with residences of principal families, in spite of its roads. Much, however, has been done within the last thirty years. Where coarse lime-stone, properly broken, is not to be had, the roads suffer from the want of it; the north side of Herefordshire has the worst public roads; the private are universally bad, excepting those situated on sandy or gravelly soils.

RAIL ROADS.

A rail-road from Brecon by the way to Kington

has been completed, and opened a communication highly advantageous to the county through which it passes, giving a facility for the conveyance of coal, iron, lime, and other articles, and the traffic is considerable. A rail road has also been projected from the neighbourhood of Abergavenny to Hereford, and is completed as far as Pontrilas, for the conveyance of coals.

BRIDGES.

To the impetuosity of the Wye is to be ascribed the want of a sufficient number of bridges, to render the communication safe and easy between different parts of the county. In the whole extent of the Wye, through Herefordshire, there was only one bridge, (at Hereford) till the year 1597; an act of parliament was then obtained for erecting a second at Wilton; and since that time, two more have been added, the one at Bredwardine, by an act passed in 1762; and the other at Whitney, by an act passed in 1780. That at Bredwardine, which is built of brick, after sustaining some damage by the great flood of 1795, has continued to resist the impetuosity of the river; but that of Whitney has already been twice destroyed, and was again renewed on stone piers in the year 1802.

RENT AND SIZE OF FARMS.

Without large farms, improvements in agriculture and breeding would be cramped, if not suppressed, and without *small ones*, Mr. Duncomb has candidly confessed, no persons but those of property could embark in agricultural pursuits; and the lusty peasantry, which forms so material a part of our national strength, would lose the stimulus and reward of industry. Of late years, the practice of consolidating several estates into one, has much reduced the number of small farms, and has left very few opportunities by which an industrious couple can devote their 50*l.* or 100*l.* to stock a number of acres proportioned to their capital, and thus bring up a family with some degree of comfort, and some idea of inde-

pendence. This circumstance being known, it operates as a check upon matrimony, tends to licentiousness of manners, and discourages population. At a former period, the parish of Holmer comprised ten farms; this number was afterwards reduced to five. When there were ten farms, the several small farmers lived respectably, maintained their families decently, and inured them to habits of industry, and they reared nearly *double* the stock that was afterwards produced. It may be that they supplied the markets with so much less corn, as the increased demand of their family required, but they made amends in an increased supply of veal, lamb, poultry, and butter, which brought these articles into general and ready use, and kept the prices of others within proper limits.

The temptations to proprietors to consolidate farms are numerous and weighty; the saving in repairs; the facility in collecting rents, and the responsibility of tenants, are all admitted; but every rank in society ought to make some sacrifices in favour of the public. Many instances of this kind have recently taken place in the lowering of rents by several opulent individuals, whose examples, it is hoped, will not be lost upon others, especially the rich clergy, and corporate bodies.

The best arable lands have been rented at an average of twenty shillings an acre, the best meadow, at forty shillings; in the vicinity of towns, some meadows have been let at four pounds an acre. The poorer arable may be rated at ten shillings, or less, and meadows in distant situations, at eighteen or twenty. Payments are invariably made in money: but waggons are lent out for a few days in the year to the landlords, to carry coal.

The greatest estates in the county belong to the Governors of Guy's Hospital, in Southwark, the Duke of Norfolk, the Earl of Essex, Sir George Cornwall, bart. R. P. Knight, esq. S. Davies, esq. &c. &c.

These are divided into farms, averaging from two to four hundred acres each, and are let to tenants at rents varying with the quality of the soil, proportion of meadow, &c. Unfortunately, only a few of the large estates are occupied by their proprietors.

TITHES.

These are in very few instances collected in kind. The average composition in lieu of them, varies from three shillings and sixpence, to four shillings in the pound, paid for rent. They are generally paid with reluctance, and considered by the occupiers and proprietors of land, as serious obstacles to agricultural improvement. The effects of tithes, in a religious view, are obvious: they prevent habits of intercourse between the clergyman and his parishioners, and destroy the purpose of his labours. To this system may also be owing, the superior influence of dissenters over their flocks, compared with that of the ministers of the church.

TENURES AND LEASES.

In Irchenfield, which is a considerable part of the hundred of Wormelow, the tenure of gavel kind has prevailed from the remotest periods to the present time. Thus, in cases of persons dying intestate, the law of primogeniture has no effect, and lands descend, not to the eldest, youngest, or any one son only, but in equal divisions to all the sons together. But the privilege and security of disposing of property by will, are now so fully understood and experienced, that the provisions of this peculiar tenure are seldom resorted to. It is the same in the manor of Hampton Bishop, with respect to the tenure of Borough English, by which the youngest son succeeds to the burgage, tenement, &c. on the death of his father, to the exclusion of his eldest and other brothers. This tenure, like that of gavel kind, is seldom acted upon. Copyhold property is not so common in this as in many other districts. The continual expenses, the vexatious litigations to which it gives rise, and the distress occasioned by it

to families, make it an object much to be wished, that a law should be made, to enable the landlord to purchase the interest of the tenant, or the tenant obtain that of the lord, by a fair and known compensation. Leasehold estates are more common, but are liable to many of the objections against copyhold property. The principal lessors are the Bishop, the Dean, the Chapter, Prebendaries, and other members of the Cathedral Church, the Corporation of Hereford, and other towns, the College of Vicars Choral, &c. Nearly two-thirds of the whole county are supposed to be freehold.

Leases of old dates, were generally binding for twenty-one years; but from the extraordinary advances in the price of grain, landed proprietors have granted them more frequently in three terms of seven years each, determinable at either of those periods, by landlord or tenant. The provisions in the clauses of Herefordshire leases, have few peculiarities. Those granted by R. C. Hopton, esq. of Canon-Frome, after binding the tenant to keep the premises in repair, further stipulate that the landlord, with proper persons, shall have power, once in every year, to survey the state of the buildings, and make a report to the tenant, of what appears necessary to be done on the premises.

FARM-HOUSES AND COTTAGES.

The old farm-houses of Herefordshire, as well as other counties, are inconvenient, and the offices ill adapted to the purposes for which they were designed. Water and shelter appear to have been principally consulted, in selecting a spot for building; these are confessedly objects of no trifling importance, but there are other objects also, which require and deserve attention. In the new ones (of which there are many) the defects of the old ones are generally supplied, to the great advantage and comfort of the farmer. The Governors of Guy's Hospital are, in this respect, particularly attentive to the interest and convenience of the tenants. Under the ma-

nagement of James Woodhouse, esq., several of the old houses have been taken down, and others substituted on better sites, and on the most approved plans. When practicable, a gentle declivity towards the south, which implies some eminence, is generally preferred: the building is adapted to the size of the farm to be occupied with it; the walls are constructed with stone, and the covering is of slate.

Particular care is taken that every part of the fold, or yard, shall be distinctly seen from the windows of the room; whether kitchen or parlour, which is most frequently inhabited by the tenant and his family; as much also of the land as possible, is within sight from that or other windows.

The out-buildings form three sides of a square, the fourth of which is occupied by the house and garden wall: the former comprise barns, stables, cow-houses, feeding-stalls, pigsties, cider-mill, and warehouse for the liquor.

Houses and buildings of all kinds are usually put into good repair by the proprietor, at the commencement of a lease, and the tenant engages to preserve them in good condition afterwards; having sometimes the advantage of unconverted timber from the estate when necessary.

COTTAGES.

These are generally of very humble construction: many have been built on waste ground by their proprietors, whose means were far from adequate to the attainment of comfort and convenience. But ten cottages, upon a much improved plan, were built by the parish of Holmer, some years since, for the accommodation of as many families, and a small garden annexed to each. The introduction of strawberries into the cottagers' gardens, are a valuable addition, combining both pleasure and profit. Part of the waste lands on Aconbury and Shucknell hills, have been particularly applied to these purposes with great success and little trouble.

The red Carolina, or Bath scarlet, are generally preferred, and their fruit sold readily in July, at ten pence per full quart, in the Hereford market.

CATTLE.

Those of Herefordshire have long been esteemed superior to most, if not all, the breeds in the island. The nearest to them in general appearance, are those of Devonshire and Sussex. Large size, an athletic form, and unusual neatness, characterize the genuine sort; the prevailing colour is a reddish brown, with white faces. The shew of oxen at Michaelmas fair, in Hereford, cannot be exceeded by any annual collection in England.

SHEEP.

The provincial breed of sheep is termed the Ryeland, from a district in the vicinity of Ross. They are small, white faced, and without horns, the ewes weighing from nine to twelve or fourteen pounds the quarter; the wethers from twelve to sixteen or eighteen pounds. In symmetry of shape, and in flavour, they are superior to most flocks in England: in quality of their wool, they are wholly unrivalled.

Leominster has usually been celebrated as famous for its wool; but possibly it might have been the place of its sale, rather than its growth. However, Philips, the poet writes,

“ Can the fleece

Bœtic, or finest Tarentine compare,

With Lempster’s silken wool?”

Camden styles it “Lempster’s ore,” and Drayton asks
“ Where lives the man so dull, on Britain’s farthest
shore,

To whom did never sound the name of Lempster
ore?

That with the silk worm’s web, for smallness doth
compare?”

HOGS.

No one breed of hogs, or *pigs*, as they are provincially termed, are peculiar to Herefordshire.

ENCLOSURES.

New ones here are ditched with posts and rails, on the banks; but quickset, or hawthorn plants, have been more in use since the Agricultural Society of the province has offered premiums for the "greatest quantity of hawthorn quick, properly planted for fencing an estate, or fairly sold by a nursery-man for that purpose." Oak timber is universally used in the construction of gates.

IMPLEMENTS.

Those used for husbandry in this county have few peculiarities. Waggon, intended for turnpike roads, have usually wheels six inches in breadth, carry about three tons and a half in weight, and are drawn by six horses abreast. Carts are also drawn on six-inch wheels, for many purposes, and have gradually superseded the use of the narrow-wheeled carts. The plough very generally resorted to, is the light *Lammas*, without a wheel; it is drawn by three or four horses, according to the condition of the soil, and was preceded by a long awkward and heavy implement, now entirely out of fashion. The plough now used, is well adapted to the requisite uses in sowing wheat, &c. Cars, that sometimes have a pair of wheels, and sometimes none, are in general use for the common business of the farm.

APPLES, CIDER, &c.

Herefordshire affords plantations of fruit-trees in every aspect, and on soil of every quality, and under every culture; but "the soil best adapted to most kinds of apples (says Mr. Duncomb) is a deep and rich loam, when under the culture of the plough; on this the trees grow with the greatest luxuriance, and produce the richest fruit. Some trees, however, the *stire* and *golden pippin* in particular, form exceptions to this general rule, and flourish most in a hot and shallow soil, upon a lime or sand-stone. The best sorts of pear-trees also prefer the rich loam; but inferior kinds will even flourish where the soil will scarcely produce herbage.

“The apple trees are divided into *Old* and *New* sorts; each class comprises what is called *Kernel fruits*; that is, the fruit growing on its own native roots, a distinction from those produced by the operation of grafting. The old sorts are the more valuable, and those which have been long introduced; as the Stire, Golden-pippen, Hagloe Crab, several varieties of the Harvey, the Brandy Apple, Red-streak, Woodcock, Moyle, Gennet moyle, Red, White, and Yellow Musks, Pauson, Fox-whelp, loan and old Pearmains, Dymock-red, Ten-commandments, &c. Some of these names are descriptive of the fruit; and others are derived from the places where they have been found in abundance. The modern varieties derive their appellations from such capricious and various causes, that a correct list cannot be composed: in some instances, the fruit bears a different name even in the same parish. In selecting fruits for cultivation, respect should be paid both to the soil and situation of the intended orchard: where both are favourable, no restraint is necessary; but in cold situations, and unkind soils, the most early fruits are obviously those which may be expected to acquire maturity.

The time for gathering the apples is generally about the middle of October; but this varies according to the season and sort of the fruit. The prevailing practice in gathering is to beat the trees with long slender poles, called *polting lugs*, and as the apples fall, women and children are employed to collect them into baskets; this mode of gathering, is, however, very defective, as both ripe and unripe fruits are thus intermixed, which is detrimental to the production of good cider. In some orchards, therefore, two gatherings are made; the first when the apples begin to fall spontaneously, which is a sure criterion of the ripeness; and again when those that were left green become sufficiently mature.

The principal markets for the fruit liquors of Herefordshire, are those of London and Bristol, from

whence great quantities are sent to Ireland, to the East and West Indies, and to other foreign markets, in bottles. The price of the common cider is generally fixed by a meeting of the dealers at Hereford fair, on the 20th of October annually, and on the average of years varies from 1l. 5s. to two guineas per hogshead, but the value of the stire cider, even at the press, is from 5l. to 15l. per hogshead.

In a plentiful year the produce of the fruit is almost beyond conception, the trees being then loaded even to excess, and frequently break under the weight of the apples; at these times, indeed, the branches are generally obliged to be supported on props, or forked poles. This kind of excessive fruitage, however, seldom occurs more than once in four years; the year immediately succeeding being mostly unproductive. In some of these years of abundance, 20 hogsheads of cider have been made from the produce of a single acre of orchard ground.

The particular era when the plantations of Herefordshire acquired the peculiar eminence which they yet retain, was during the reign of Charles I. when by the spirited exertions of Lord Scudamore, and other gentlemen of the county, Herefordshire “became, in a manner, one entire orchard.”

MINERALS.

Iron ore was discovered in the sandy district of Wormelow hundred, in the time of the Romans, and many of the hard blomares used by them have been met with on Peterstow Common, and also considerable quantities of ore imperfectly smelted. Camden remarks, that the town of Ross was famous for smiths in his time. Of late years, however, no iron has been manufactured in this county, and the very extensive works in the Forest of Dean, have now been stopped a considerable time. Small particles of lead ore have occasionally been found in the lime-rocks situated on the northwest parts of the county. Red and yellow ochres have also been found, with fullers' earth and tobacco-pipe clay.

AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES.

The first of this kind was established in this county, in 1797, and comprised most of the principal proprietors and occupiers of land in the county. The number of members has been nearly a hundred and fifty. The avowed objects of the society are to excite, by premiums and other means, a general spirit of emulation among breeders and practical farmers; to encourage and reward industry and fidelity in servants; to promote the knowledge of every branch of agriculture; to carry the breeds of cattle and sheep, as to fleece and carcase, to the greatest points of perfection; to improve the breed of horses of the cart kind; to establish a market and sale where opulent and spirited purchasers may always find the best stock, &c. &c.

LEARNED AND EMINENT CHARACTERS.

John Talbot, Earl of Shrewsbury, a celebrated commander in the reign of Henry V. was slain at the siege of Chatillon in France, in 1453. Robert Devereux, the celebrated Earl of Essex, was born at Netherwood, in 1567. He was beheaded, in 1601, for treason and rebellion. Captain James Cornwall, an excellent naval commander, was born at Bredwardine Castle, and was killed off Toulon, a chain shot depriving him of both his legs, February 27, 1743; he has a noble monument in Westminster Abbey, thirty-six feet high. David Garrick, the British Roscius, born at Hereford, 1716; he died in 1779, and his widow survived him till 1822. Eleanor Gywn, the celebrated courtesan in the reign of Charles II., was a native of Herefordshire, and had no small influence in procuring the foundation of Greenwich Hospital, she died in 1687. John Kyrle, Pope's man of Ross, was born at Ross, or at Whitehouse, and died in 1724, aged ninety. With an income of only five hundred pounds per annum, he merited all the praises bestowed on him by Pope.

The Hereford Journal is published in that city weekly, on a Wednesday.

POPULATION.

According to the returns of 1821, Herefordshire contains 2061 inhabited houses, occupied by 21,000 families ; males 51,552 ; females 61,591 ; total 108,243. The increase of population in the city of Hereford is ascribed to vaccine inoculation, to the peace, and the convenience of a market.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

The following are the peculiar ones used in this county. A pound of fresh butter, eighteen ounces ; a stone, twelve pounds ; a customary acre, two-thirds of a statute acre ; a hop acre, that space which contains a thousand plants, or about half a statute acre ; a lug, forty-nine yards square of coppice wood ; a wood acre, three-eighths larger than a statute, or as 8 to 5 ; a day moth, about a statute acre of meadow or grass land, the quantity usually mown by one man in a day ; a perch of fencing, seven yards ; a perch of walling, sixteen feet and a half ; a perch of land, five yards and a half, (as statute ;) a bushel of grain, ten gallons ; a bushel of malt, eight gallons and a half.

TOPOGRAPHICAL DESCRIPTION OF THE COUNTY OF HEREFORD.

Journey from Comb to Riford, through Hereford.

COMB is a small village situated at the north-western extremity of the county, on the eastern banks of the Lugg. A short distance to the south of this village, on the western extremity of Wapler Hill, are the vestiges of an extensive camp. The slope of the eminence is finely covered with wood, and its northern extremity is washed by a small river, which forms one of the sources of the above river. The banks and ditches (which are high and very deep) are five-fold, excepting on one side, where the steepness of the ascent is a sufficient security.

At the village of TITLEY, situated about two

miles to the south of Comb, was formerly a Priory, subordinate to the Abbey of Tyrone, in France. On the suppression of the Alien Priories, in the reign of Henry the Fifth, it was given to the college at Winchester, and still belongs to that establishment.

About a mile to the west of Titley, is Eywood, the principal seat of Edward Harley, Earl of Oxford, and Earl Mortimer, who possesses a very considerable extent of landed property in the north-western part of this county. The grounds at Eywood display a great diversity of scenery, and are ornamented with some fine plantations.

On leaving Comb, we proceed in a south-easterly direction, and at the distance of five miles and a half pass through the village of Pembridge, 150 miles from London, formerly a market town, and giving name to the ancient and honourable family of Pembridge, or Brydges, ancestors of the Lord Chandos. This place was part of the estate of the Mortimers, who procured the privilege of a market, and Henry the First granted it a charter of liberties: the market has been long discontinued.

At the distance of about 14 miles from Pembridge, after passing through the villages of West-Hope, we arrive at an angle of the road, distinguished by the remains of a stone cross, called the White Cross, the base of which consists of an hexagonal flight of seven steps, measuring ten feet each in length, but which gradually decrease with the ascent. The first and only remaining stage of the shaft is likewise hexagonal, the height of which is six feet, and the breadth of each face two feet, exclusive of a pillar between each. In these sides are as many niches, containing shields, bearing a lion rampant; the niches are under pointed arches, supported on small columns. Above is an embattled parapet, with the mouldings, and base of a second division of the shaft; this, however, with all the upper part, has been long destroyed: the entire height, in its present state, is 25 feet.

The origin of this cross, according to tradition, is ascribed to Bishop Cantilupe, who is said to have been returning towards Hereford, from his palace at Sugwas, when the bells of his cathedral began ringing, without any human agency, and that in commemoration of such a miraculous event, he erected this cross, on the spot where the sounds had first attracted his notice. Mr. Duncomb has, however, given a much more probable reason for its construction. In the year 1347, he observes, "an infectious disorder ravaged the whole county of Hereford, and as usual, displayed the greatest malignity in the places most numerous inhabited; this created a necessity of removing the markets from Hereford, and the spot of waste ground, on which the cross now stands, was applied to that purpose. In memory of this event, Dr. Lewis Charlton, who was consecrated bishop of Hereford a few years afterwards, caused this cross to be erected; the lion rampant was the armorial bearing of this prelate, and is repeated on his monument in the cathedral, with a similarity which so strictly pervades the whole architecture of the tomb and the cross, as to afford the strongest presumption that this was the real origin of the cross described." One mile beyond White Cross, we arrive at

HEREFORD,

A city of great antiquity, though the precise era of its origin has not been ascertained. It is supposed by Camden to have arisen when the Saxon Heptarchy was at its height, though he immediately afterwards assigns the reign of Edward the elder as the time of its foundation. It must, however, have been in existence previous to the year 676, or 680; for during the reign of Penda, king of Mercia, who had embraced Christianity, a synod was held here for the purpose of erecting a new see in Mercia, in consequence of which Putta was chosen the first bishop of Hereford; this circumstance clearly evinces that Hereford must have been a place of some

importance at that time; and the probability is that it originated soon after the departure of the Romans, when *Magna Castra*, or *Kenchester*, the nearest Roman station, was deserted.

This city, however, whatever was its origin, became the capital of the Mercian kingdom, and had a magnificent church, according to Polydore Virgil, as early as the reign of Offa, and even previous to the present cathedral being founded by that sovereign, in expiation of the murder of Ethelbert, king of the East Angles. The erection of this edifice, together with the various gifts made by the multitude that came to visit the tomb of Ethelbert, who was deemed a martyr, and worshipped as a saint, contributed not a little to the importance of Hereford; its progress was equally flourishing under the West Saxon Kings; and about the time of Athelstan, the city was inclosed with walls, as a security on those sides where it was not defended by the Wye; these walls, which now imperfectly remain, although they have been improved and strengthened at various periods, probably stand (says Mr. Duncomb) on the original foundations. They are 1800 yards in extent, and inclose the city on the east, north, and west sides; towards the south, it has the natural defence of the Wye, and also 50 yards of wall from the western angle towards the bridge: the whole of this side is 550 yards. The gates were six in number, viz. Wye-Bridge Gate, which stood at the south end of the bridge; Friar's Gate, which was situated on the south-west; Einge Gate, on the west; Wide Marsh Gate, on the north; Bishop's Gate, on the north east; and St. Andrew's, since called St. Owen's, on the south-east. Fifteen embattled towers projected from the walls, having embrasures in the shape of crosses, in the centre and sides, for observation, and the discharge of arrows. The distances between these towers varied from 75 to 125 yards: the height of the wall, measuring on the outside, was 16 feet: that of the towers, 34,

Thus the whole circumference of the city, enclosed by the walls and river, was 2350 yards. Speed, in his history, states the walls only to be 1500 paces in extent; and Leland very correctly calls it a goodly mile. The latter writer also observes, that "these walles and gates be right well maintained by the burgesses of the town;" and notices also the additional security derived from "a little brooke that cometh a five miles by west, and circuith [as it still continues to do] the ditches of the walles *ubi non defenditor Vagâ*, and goeth down, leaving the castle on the right hand, and thence dreiving two milles for corne, goeth into Wye a flyte shotte beneath Wye Bridge, and hard beneath the castles."

About the middle of the eleventh century, during the reign of Edward the Confessor, Gryffith, a sovereign of Wales, after conquering the English forces under the command of Ranulph, the governor of Hereford, who had been induced to quit the city and give battle to the Welsh, entered Hereford, which immediately became a scene of pillage and slaughter. The principal inhabitants fled to the cathedral for security; but the entrance being forced, a dreadful carnage ensued, and the church pillaged of its riches, and being set on fire, the flames communicated to the city, the greatest part of which was reduced to ashes; and, according to the Welsh chronicles, nearly 500 of Earl Ranulph's men were slain; and the "Britons returned home with many worthy prisoners, great triumph, and rich spoils, leaving nothing in the town but blood and ashes, and the walls razed to the ground."

Edward, who was then at Gloucester, immediately collected an army, the command of which he entrusted to Harold, son of Earl Godwin, who advancing into Wales, obliged the late successful invaders to sue for peace. Harold, soon afterwards returning to Hereford, fortified it, according to Floriacensis, with "a broad and high rampire." Some writers also ascribe the rebuilding of its walls and

fortifications to Harold, who is likewise said to have erected the castle; but as writers have differed respecting the origin of this castle, we shall insert the following extract from Mr. Duncomb's collections, whose observations respecting it are particularly pertinent. "When Harold rebuilt the walls, it seems highly probable that he founded the castle for the further defence of the town; yet on this point writers are not fully agreed; it is, however, well known, that the policy of Edward the Confessor induced him, in the early part of his reign, to fortify strongly places of consequence, and especially those most accessible or advantageous to his enemies, which was precisely the situation of Hereford, from its vicinity to Wales. *Edoardus, in i'o principatu, cuncta sibi e republica a primo facienda existimans, loca omnia præsidiis munire, &c.* But Grafton writes 'that Edward the Elder, son of Alured, in the eighth year of his reign (908) built a strong castle at Hereford:' and a manuscript in the Harleian library mentions, from Holinshed, that 'Griffith, king of Wales, wasted a great part of Herefordshire; against whom the men of that county, and Normans out of the castle of Hereford, went: but Griffith obtained the victory, slaying many, and toke a great prey." Sprott's chronicle also records, *Edwardus Rex. . . . Castrum Herefordiæ . . . et Villam de Wyggemore condidit . . . cui successit Ethelstanus.*"

"To these accounts it is objected, that had a regular castle existed when Algar and Gryffyth got possession of Hereford, Leland would hardly have represented that it was 'scant fortified' on that occasion; nor would the Welsh chroniclers have omitted to notice what would have added so much to the fame of their heroes, as the reduction of a considerable castle. Camden observes, that the Normans afterwards (i. e. after the conquest) built on the east side of the church, on the Wye, a large strong castle, which some ascribe to earl Milo." Hume also ascribes the building to the Norman Conqueror;

others attribute it to William Fitz-Osborne, first earl of Hereford, after the conquest. Leland writes, 'some think that Heraldus began this castle after he had conquered the rebellion of the Welshmen in King Edward the Confessor's time. Some think that the Laceys, Earls of Hereford, were the great makers of it; and the Bohuns, Earls of Hereford.' Dr. Stukeley states that the castle was a noble work, built by one of the Edwards before the conquest; and Giraldus Cambrensis, as quoted by Lambarde, attributes the building to 'Randal Poer, when Shyrife of the shyre,' but does not add the date.

"Now Camden's idea, that Earl Milo was the founder, is obviously incorrect; for the castle stood a siege some years before Milo was Earl of Hereford. Leland's report of the Lacys is equally groundless, as none of that family appear to have been Earls of Hereford at any period. The other accounts are, perhaps, best reconciled, by supposing that some rude fortifications, composed simply of earth, and thrown up after the British mode, might have existed before the time of Harold, and might even have acquired the appellation of a castle: that on their site Harold founded a regular work of stone, which his death, in 1066, prevented his finishing; and that the earls, and some of the sheriffs of Hereford, afterwards completed his design.

"The castle (continues our author) occupied a part of the south and east sides of the city, having the river Wye on the south, and being defended by a large and deep moat on the north and east sides, to the angle of which the wall of the city extended. This situation was well calculated for the defence of the cathedral, which nearly adjoined it on the west; and probably that circumstance occasioned a preference to this particular spot, which does not seem well adapted to the general defence of the town.

"The castle comprised two wards; the keep was in the smaller, towards the west, having a strong tower on the top, and a dungeon underneath. Le-

land describes the keep to have been, 'high and very strong, having in the outer wall ten semicircular towers, and one great tower within.' Dr. Stukeley termed it, a 'very lofty artificial keep, walled formerly at top, and having a wall in it faced with good stone.' In the eastern ward were the gate-house; a chapel dedicated to St. Cuthbert, part whereof (says Leland) is 'opere circulari;' a mill and two dwelling-houses, perhaps intended originally for the accommodation of the governor and his attendants. 'Ther is a fayre and plentiful spring of water (continues Leland) within the castle; and that and the piece of the brooke coming out of the ditch, did drive a mill within the castle.' In every direction must have been capable of very considerable defence against the modes of attack then known; on the south, the ground along the eastern ward, fell almost perpendicularly seven yards to the river: on the east the works stood on earth thrown up five yards, with a deep and broad moat in front, which were all continued on the north, until they reached the wall which inclosed the keep. The dimensions of the greater or eastern ward, measuring on the site of the walls, were nearly as follow: on the south, 175 yards; on the west 100; on the north 175; and on the east 196. The smaller, or western ward, was nearly 100 yards in extent, on the south and east sides; towards the north and west were three sides, each measuring 65 yards. 'There came also an arme of a brooke that runneth through a great piece of the town dyke, by an arche made in the town wall into the castle dyke, and so compassing half the castle (that is the east and the north sides of the larger court) went into Wye; so that with the principall arme of this brooke, and with the arme of it going through the castle dike, and with the maine stream of Wye river, the whole castle was environed; but now the arme of the brooke cometh not through the castle, yet it might soon be returned thither. The second ward where

the dungeon is, was also environed with water; for a piece of the water, that came through the dike, was turned that way.' The entrance was on the north side of the eastern ward, over a great bridge of stone arches, with a draw-bridge in the middle. 'The castle standeth on the left ripe of Wye River, and a little beneath the bridge, and is strongly ditched, *ubi non defenditur flumine*; the walles of it be high and stronge, and full of great toweres: it hath been one of the largest, fayrest, and strongest castles in England.' By the side of the ditch arose a spring, which superstition consecrated to St. Ethelbert: this is situated on the north side of the western ward, and retains a degree of reputation to the present day."

This castle is now almost obliterated, the only vestige of any part of the building being a fragment at the south-west corner, now converted into a dwelling. It seems probable, that this fortress was never effectually repaired after the siege in 1645, though it continued to be garrisoned till 1652, at which time the parliamentary commissioners returned it as 'ruinous' and its materials as worth only 85l. The area of the outer ward, called the Castle Green, is now surrounded by a public walk, which is carried along the site of the walls, and is much frequented from its pleasant situation. On the site of the lower keep of the castle, another walk, still more elevated, and forming a kind of a semicircle, has been made.

In the Doomsday Book are several interesting particulars relative to the customs and tenures prevalent in this city and its suburbs, the whole of which prove the consequence which Hereford had attained; though its inhabitants, both within and without the walls, in the same record, are stated to have been only 103 in the time of Edward the Confessor; but this enumeration must have been made subsequent to the destruction of the town by Griffith, the number of houses held under the bishop being stated to have amounted to only 60, though his predecessor

had 98. At this time Hereford was governed by an officer (Præpositus) who was appointed by the crown, and whose consent it was requisite to obtain before any inhabitant could leave the city: "he might then sell his house to any other person who would perform the usual service; but one third part of the price was given to the king's officer. If any inhabitant was unable, through poverty, to discharge the accustomed dues to the crown, his house became forfeited; and the Præpositus was to provide another tenant, and take care that the dues were collected. The owner of an entire dwelling house within the walls, paid seven-pence farthing annually, besides four-pence towards providing war horses; he was also obliged to mow grass in the king's manor of Malden, in the month of August: and to attend one other day, when ordered by the sheriff, to collect hay together. He who kept a horse attended the sheriff three times in the year to the hundred courts, and to that of Wormelow. When the king hunted in Haywood Forest, every house was to furnish one man to assist in taking the game. Other inhabitants not possessing entire dwelling-houses, provided door-keepers for the hall, whenever the king attended in person. On the death of any one who had served with a war-horse, the king was entitled to his horse and arms; where no horse was kept, 10s. were paid to the king; or in default, possession was taken of his house and lands: if any one died without having disposed of his effects, the whole became the property of the crown.

"These customs prevailed within the walls: those in the suburbs were similar, except that in the latter, the owner of a house paid only three-pence farthing. Other regulations were common to both; and when the wife of any inhabitant brewed, ten-pence was paid by ancient customs. There were six smiths, and each of them paid one penny for his forge, and furnished 120 *ferra* from the king's iron, for which each was paid three-pence; nor were

they subject to any other service whatever. There were also seven *Moneyers*, one of whom belonged to the bishop. When a coinage took place, every moneyer paid 18s. for the liberty of procuring bullion; and on their return with it, each paid 20s. daily to the king during one month; and the bishop's moneyer paid the same to the bishop. When the king came to Hereford, the moneyer coined as much as he ordered; but the king furnished the silver to make it: each of the moneyer's enjoyed the privilege of *Sac* and *Soke*, by which they were exempted from customary payments.—On the death of either of the king's moneyers, twenty shillings were paid to the crown as a relief: but if he died without having disposed of his effects, the king, as in other cases, took possession of the whole. If the sheriff went into Wales, the moneyers attended him; and every one of them refusing to go, after a summons to that effect, paid a fine of 40 shillings to the king. Earl Harold had twenty-seven burgesses under him at Hereford, and these were subject to the same customs as the others. The bailiff, or chief officer, paid annually 12l. to the king, and six to Earl Harold; the above customs being common to the tenants of each. The king also received these forfeitures as penalties, in case of particular offences, for each of which 100s. was paid to the king, whether the offender was his tenant or not.

“After the Conquest, King William held Hereford in his own demesne, and the English inhabitants remained subject to the above stated customs; but the French inhabitants were exempt from all forfeitures, (except the three noticed above), on the payment of twelvepence annually. The whole town thus paid to the Conqueror 60 pounds in silver coin, which, together with the emoluments accruing from eighteen manors, which were accounted for in Hereford, amounted to 335l. 18s. besides the mulcts, and other profits, arising from the hundred and other courts.”—(*Duncomb from the Domesday Book.*)

When the barons broke out in rebellion against Henry III. they began their operations at this place, under the command of Simon Mountfort, earl of Leicester, and their first act of hostility was to imprison the bishop, and such of the canons as were foreigners, after they had plundered them of all their valuable effects. It was also of considerable repute, when the barons took up arms against Edward II. whose great favourite, Hugh Spencer, Earl of Gloucester, was hanged here on a gallows 50 feet high; and several others, the favourites of that prince, shared the same fate.

A most bloody battle being fought near this place between the army of Henry VI. and that of the Earl of March (afterwards Edward IV), the latter of whom was conqueror, and having taken several of the Welsh nobility, as well as others, prisoners, he brought them into this city, and ordered them to be executed in the most barbarous manner.

On the breaking out of the civil wars, Lord Clarendon describes Hereford as a "town very well affected, and reasonably well fortified, having a strong stone wall about it, and some cannon; and there being in it some soldiers of good reputation, many gentlemen of honour and quality, and three or four hundred soldiers, besides the inhabitants well armed." Sir William Waller, however, suddenly appearing before it, the garrison yielded themselves prisoners on quarter, without the loss of one man on either side.

Shortly after its surrender, the parliamentary army quitted the city, upon which it was immediately re-occupied by a strong garrison of royalists, under the command of Barnabas Scudamore, Esq. brother to the first Viscount Scudamore. About two years afterwards, it was besieged by the Scotch auxiliaries under the Earl of Leven, but after an ineffectual struggle of upwards of a month's continuance, and just as the earl had completed his preparations for storming the place, he was compelled

to retreat, by the approach of the king, with a superior force from Worcester.

The following letter descriptive of the most particular events that occurred during this siege, sent by the brave Scudamore to Lord Digby, is preserved among the King's pamphlets in the British Museum, and which from its singularity we shall insert at length.

"On the 30th of July, I sent out a party of twenty horse over Wye Bridge, who discovering their forlorne hope of horse, charged them into their maine body, and returned in very little disorder, and with losse only of one trooper, taken prisoner; some of the Scots falling. Immediately after this, their whole body of horse faced us in about ten of the clock in the morning, within reach of our cannon, and were welcomed with our mettall, good execution being done upon them: their foot as yet undiscovered. About half an hour after, I caused a strong party of foot, seconded with horse, to line the hedges, who galled them in the passage to the fords; after whose handsome retreat, I began to ensafe the ports, which I did that night. In the morning appeared their body of foot, and we found ourselves surrounded. I enjoyned the bells silence, lest their ringing, which was an alarme to awaken our devotion, might chime them together to the execution of their malice. For the same reason I stop the clocks: and hereby, tho' I prevented them telling tales to the advantage of the enemy, I myself lost the punctuall observations of many particulars, which, therefore, I must more confusedly relate to your lordship.

"Before they attempted any thing against the towne, they invited us to surrender: this they did by a double summons; one from Leven, directed to me; the other from the committees of both kingdoms, (attending upon the assayres of the army), sent to the maior and corporation; but we complied so well in our resolutions, that one positive

answer served for both parties, which was returned by me to their generall.

“ This not giving that satisfaction they desired, they began to approach upon the first of August, but very slowly and modestly, as yet intending more the security of their own persons, than the ruine of ours; but all their art could not protect them from our small and great shot which fell upon them. Besides this, our men galled them handsomely at their several sallies over Wye Bridge; once beat them up to their maine guard; and at another demolisht one side of St. Martin's Steeple, which would have much annoyed us at the bridge and palace. This was performed only with the hurt of two men, but with the losse of great store of the enemies men.

“ When they saw how difficult the service would prove, before they could compasse their designs by force, they made use of another engine, which was flattery. The maior and alderman are courted to yield the towne, by an epistle subscribed by six of the country gentlemen, very compassionate and suasory, but upon our refusall to stoup to this lure, they were much incensed that they had been so long disappointed, and having all this while continued their line of communication, they raised their batteries, commencing at Wye Bridge, from whence they received the greatest damage: but instead of revenging that losse upon us, they multiplied their own, by the death of their much-lamented General Crafford, and some others that fell with him. This provoked them to play hot upon the gate for two dayes together, and battered it so much, being the weakest, that it was rendered uselesse; yet our men stopped it up with woolsacks and timber; and for our greater assurance of eluding their attempt we brake an arch, and raised a very strong worke behind it.

“ The enemy, frustrate of his hopes here, raised two severall batteries; one at the Friers, the other

on the other side of Wye river; and from both these playes his ordinance against the corner of the wall by Wye side; but we repair and line our walls faster than they can batter them, whereupon they desist.

“ About the 11th of August, we discover a mine at Frien (Fryar's) Gate, and employ workmen to countermine them. When we had stopt the progress of that mine on one side of the gate, they carried it on the other; which we also defeated by making a sally port, and issuing forth, did break it open, and fire it.

“ About the 13th they raise batteries round about the town, and make a bridge over Wye river. The 14th Dr. Scudamore is sent by them, to desire admittance for three country gentlemen, who pretended, in their letters, to impart something of consequence to the good of the city and country. Free leave of ingresse and egresse was allowed them; but being admitted, their suggestions were found to us so frivolous and impertinent, that they were dismissed; not without some disrelish and neglect; and the said doctor, after they had passed the port, coming back from his company, was unfortunately slaine by a shot from the enemy.

“ About the 16th they discover the face of their battery against Frien Gate with five severall gun-ports; from hence they played four cannone jointly at our walls, and made a breach, which was instantly made up; they do the like on the other side, with the like successe.

“ The 17th, a notable sally was made at St. Owen's church with great execution, and divers prisoners taken, with the losse of only one man; at the same time little boys strived which should first carry torches and faggots to fire their works, which was performed to some purpose; and so it was at the same sally-port once before, though with a fewer number; and therefore with lesse execution. And I may not forget to acquaint your lordship with

those other foure sallies, made by us at the castle to good effect, and what emulation there was between the souldiers and citizens, which should be most engaged in them.

“ Now their losse of prisoners, slaughter of men, and dishonour of being beaten out of their workes, which they found ready to flame about their ears, if they returned presently into them, had so kindled their indignation, that presently they raised batteries against St. Owen's Church, and plaied fiercely at it, but to little purpose, which they so easily perceived that, from the 20th until the 27th there was a great calme on all sides; we as willing to provide ourselves, and preserve our ammunition from a storme, as they could be industrious and malicious to bring it upon us. Yet I cannot say either side was idle; for they plied their mine at St. Owen's and prepared for scaling; we countermined, imployed our boyes by day and night to steal out and fire their works, securing their retreat by musketiers upon the wall; and what our fire could not perfect, though it burnt far, and suffocated some of their miners, our water did, breaking in upon them, and drowning that which the fire had not consumed; and this saved us the paines of pursuing a mine, which we had sunk on purpose to render theirs in that place ineffectual.

“ The 29th, Leven, a mercifull generall, assayes the town by his last offer of honourable conditions to surrender; but he found us still unrelenting, the terror of his cannon making no impression at all upon our spirits, though the bullets discharged from them had done so much on our walls: this, though some of their commanders were remisse and coole at the debate, and some contradictory, drives their greatest spirits into a passionate resolution of storming; and to that purpose, August 31st and September 1st, they prepare ladders, hurdles, and other accommodations for advancing their designe, and securing their persons in the attempt, and plaide very hot with their cannon upon Bysters-Gate, and the

half-moon next St. Owen's Gate, intending the morning after to fall on, presuming, as they boasted, that, 'after they had rung us this passing peale, they should presently force the garrison to give up her loyal ghost.' But the same night, his majesty advancing from Worcester, gave them a very hot alarm and drawing a little nearer to us, like the sunne to the meridian, the Scottish miste beganne to disperse, and the next morning vanished out of sight.

"I may not forget one remarkable piece of divine providence, that God sent us singular men of all professions, very useful and necessary to us in this distresse, and so accidentally to us, as if they had been on purpose let down from heaven to serve our present and emergent occasions: such as skilfull miners, excellent cannoneers, one whereof spent but one shot in vain throughout the whole siege; an expert carpenter, the only man in all the county to make mills, without whom we had been much disfurnisht of our means to make powder (after our powder mill was burnt,) or grind corne. That providence that brought these to us, at last drove our enemies from us, after the destruction of foure or five mines, the expense of three hundred cannon shot, besides other ammunition spent with muskets, and the losse, by their confession, of 1200, and as the country says, 2000 men: we in all, not losing above 21, by all casualties whatsoever."

The entrenchments, that were thrown up by the Scots, during this siege, are still visible on different sides of the town.

Notwithstanding this success, Hereford continued but a short time in possession of the royalists, it being soon after taken by a detachment of parliamentary troops, under the command of Colonel Birch, Colonel Morgan, and Captain Silas Taylor, who are said to have obtained it by the following stratagem. The country people having been summoned by the governor of Hereford to repair to the city, for the purpose of assisting and strengthening the

walls and fortifications, which had been greatly damaged during the siege by the Scotch army, and some of the warrants issued on this occasion having been intercepted, Colonel Birch hired six men, put them in the form of labourers, with a constable with them, with a warrant to bring these men to work in the town; in the night he lodged them within three quarters musket shot of the town, and 150 musqueteers near them; and himself with the foot, and Colonel Morgan with the horse, coming up in the night after them, cut off all intelligence from the town, and thus prevented any discovery. In the morning, upon letting down the draw-bridge, the six countrymen, and the constable, went with their pick-axes and spades to the bridge; but on the guard beginning to examine them, the countrymen killed three of them, and kept the rest in play till the musqueteers and the main body came up, when they entered the town, with small loss, and became masters of it.

Soon after the Restoration, the bravery which the inhabitants of this city had displayed in resisting the Scotch, was rewarded by a new charter, and an augmentation of arms, with the motto "*INVICTÆ FIDELITATIS PRÆMIUM.*" Since this period no event of distinguished historical celebrity has occurred respecting this city.

Hereford, as before observed, was formerly surrounded by a wall and deep ditch, and defended by the above-mentioned castle, which, as well as a great part of the wall, and three of the gates, are demolished. The streets are in general wide, and the buildings, within the space of a few years, have been greatly improved: and as the city stands on a gravelly soil, the air is consequently salubrious, and very favourable to longevity.

The most conspicuous among the public buildings of this city is the Cathedral, which, as already mentioned, owes its origin to the murder of Ethelbert, king of the East Angles, by the Mercian king

Offa, whose valuable donations to the original church, which was dedicated to St. Mary, and which previously occupied the same site, has frequently occasioned him to be considered as the founder of the new cathedral, which was erected about the year 825, by Milefrid, a provincial governor under Egbert.

The following are the circumstances attending the murder of Ethelbert, as related by ancient historians.—The principles of Offa having been corrupted by the possession of wealth and dominion, he invited Ethelbert to his palace at Sutton Walls, about three miles north-east from Hereford, under pretence of giving him his daughter in marriage; but on his arrival Quendreda, the wife of Offa, impelled by the ambition of procuring a new kingdom for her family, obtained the consent of her husband to violate all the ties of honour and hospitality, by putting their unfortunate guest to death, which was immediately executed by some partizans in the service of the queen. His body was first privately interred at Marden, but it was soon afterwards removed by Offa, to the church at Hereford, where he erected a magnificent tomb to his memory.

The murdered prince, who had (while living) been considered as possessing various eminent qualifications, was, after his death, regarded as a saint, and many miraculous events were affirmed to have occurred at the place of his interment. Milefrid, being induced to enquire into the truth of these reputed miracles, and the result of his investigation proving satisfactory, he determined to erect a new church of stone on the site of the former, in honour of St. Ethelbert, and as the ample grants made by Milefrid were not only augmented by the revenues arising from the donations of Offa, but still farther increased by the numerous offerings made by the pilgrims, who flocked in multitudes to the shrine of the murdered king, the work was soon completed, but no description of it is supposed to exist; for within less than 200 years it appears to have wholly

fallen to decay; it was however rebuilt by the munificence of Bishop Athelstan, who was appointed to this see in the year 1012, over which he presided till the time of his decease in 1056; in which year the cathedral itself was destroyed by fire, during the hostile incursion of the Welsh under Gryffyth, and the Earl of Chester, and remained in ruins till the succession of Robert, surnamed Lozing, in the year 1079, when that bishop began the present edifice, on the model of the Church of Aken, now Aix-la-Chapelle, in Germany; but Lozing dying, in the year 1095, and leaving the cathedral unfinished, his design was afterwards completed by Bishop Raynelm, who was appointed to this see about the year 1096, and who is recorded in the Calendar of Obits,* to be the founder of this church, probably from the great extent of the work erected during his prelacy. This venerable structure, has, however, been greatly increased and beautified by several of the bishops since its erection, and the last alterations of any considerable importance are of a very recent date, having been effected since the year 1786, when the tower over the west front gave way, and falling to the ground destroyed all the parts immediately beneath it, together with the adjoining parts of the nave. The west end has since been rebuilt, and the whole cathedral repaired under the direction of Mr. Wyatt.

The cathedral destroyed by Gryffyth is supposed to have extended beyond the lines of the present building, and particularly towards the south-east; where, near the cloisters of the college, Silas Taylor, the antiquary, discovered, about the year 1050, "such stupendous foundations, such capitals, and pedestals, such well-wrought bases for arches, and such rare engravings, and mouldings of friezes,"

* '5 Kal. Oct. obitus Renelmi episcopi, fundatoris' ecclesie Sancti Ethelberti.'

as left little doubt in his mind, but that they formed parts of the church built by Athelstan.

The general plan of the present venerable structure is that of a cross, with a lesser transept towards the east, and a chapel dedicated to the Virgin Mary beyond it. At the intersection of the nave and transept, is a square stone tower, which had formerly a spire of timber, cased with lead, and rising 92 feet in height above the battlements, but this was pulled down, during the late repairs, in order to relieve the arches of the tower from so much of the superincumbent weight. Though the greater transept is not uniform, its north end being larger than the south, yet an additional building, originally employed as the treasury, but now used as the chapter-house, gives its appearance an air of symmetry.

The exterior parts of the present edifice are very dissimilar in appearance, particularly since the recent construction of the west front, the architecture of which is extremely incongruous to the style which it pretends to imitate. "Whatever was the cause (says a modern writer) of this departure from the ancient character of the building, whether it arose from the inadequacy of the funds, or from the want of skill in the architect, its effects are certainly to be lamented, inasmuch as they detract greatly from the sublimity of the original design. The great door, as it now appears, can hardly be compared to any thing else than a very ill-formed niche, with an obtuse arch, bounded by two buttresses, and surmounted by battlements; the great window is in the high-pointed style; and the centre terminates with battlements, and has an empty niche. Besides the buttresses above mentioned, the facade has two five-sided and two common buttresses. The niches over the side doors are paltry in the extreme: the more beautiful front, whose place has been usurped, is described by Mr. Duncomb nearly as follows:—
"The original west front was carried on in the Saxon style, as high as the roof of the nave in the centre,

and of the aisles on the sides. At the west entrance several series of small Saxon columns, with circular arches intersecting each other, extended horizontally over the whole facade, and were divided from each other by lines or mouldings, variously adorned. Under the first or lowest series of arches, the billet ornament prevailed; under the second, the embattled frette; under the third, the nail-head; and under the fourth, the zig-zag: the bases, shafts, capitals and most of the arches, were plain; but some of the last were distinguished by the zig-zag, and others had the nail-head ornament, both of which decorated other parts of this front. The entrance was under a recessed circular arch, supported by five plain pillars on each side, and over the door and side aisles mosaic patterns prevailed in the sculpture. On the centre of this front a tower was afterwards constructed in the pointed style: it was raised on long and irregular shafts, awkwardly projecting from the inside of the original walls of the nave, affording an inadequate support, and proving, by their construction, that the tower itself formed no part of the original building or design. The central window, which was greatly enlarged, and altered into the pointed form, in the beginning of the reign of Henry VI. was divided horizontally into three parts, by stone transoms; and each was again divided perpendicularly, by mullions, into six lights, terminating above in trefoil arches. Over the point of the arch, was a human face, with foliage expanding on each side in the form of wings; this served as a corbel to a small ornamented column, which rose to the parapet of the tower: on the sides of the window, under cinquefoil arches were effigies, as large as life, of St. Paul and Bishop Cantipule, towards the north, and of St. Peter and King Ethelbert towards the south: under the feet of each a quatrefoil was sculptured over a trefoil arch; and long and slender shafts, supporting cinquefoil arches, with pediments and pinnacles, enriched with crock-

ets, completed this range of sculptured decoration. Above the pinnacles were two rows of windows, four windows in each row: the upper contained two lights in the lancet form; the lower was somewhat less simple; a single mullion divided each into two lights as before, and reaching the head, branched off to the sides, forming a trefoil arch over each light, from which an upright was carried to the curve of the window on each side, and completed the design. A border, resembling the nail-head, crossed the tower horizontally above, between, and below the windows; a similar decoration was also carried down the corners of the tower; above the whole was an embattled parapet, decorated with the trefoil arch. Four square buttresses, with Saxon ornaments, projected from the sides of the tower; and the extremities of the front terminated in hexagonal pinnacles, surmounted with crosses; those in the centre reached above the parapet; but those on the sides were lower by one third part." This tower, which was 80 feet in breadth, and 130 feet in height, gave several intimations of its approaching fate, and some attempts were made to prevent it; but the decay had become too general to admit of this being effected; the arches entirely gave way on the evening of Easter-Monday, in the year 1786; and the whole mass instantaneously became a heap of ruins. In rebuilding this portion of the cathedral, the foundations were removed more inward, in consequence of which the length of the nave was considerably diminished. Nearly 18,000*l.* were expended upon the new works, and about 2000*l.* more were appropriated to the general repair of the central tower, and other parts of the fabric; of these sums 7000*l.* were subscribed by the clergy and laity, and the remaining 13,000*l.* were charged on the estates of the church.

The exterior of the nave on the north side resembles much of its original character; though the tops of the buttresses, clerestory windows, parapets, &c. are modern: the porch, which forms the grand

entrance on this front, was built by Bishop Booth, about the beginning of the 16th century, and is constructed with four clusters of small pillars, which support as many pointed arches, one leading into the cathedral, and the other three opening into the church-yard. The columns, which are six feet in height, rise twelve feet from the level of their capitals to the crown of the arch, making it lofty and pointed. The capitals are plain and circular, and divided into several laminæ, gradually decreasing in their circumference from that which is uppermost. The three principal mouldings of the arch leading into the church are curiously sculptured with the figures of men and animals. The roof, which is vaulted with stone, is divided by ribs into angular compartments, having quatrefoils, and other foliage, at their intersections. On each side of the north arch is an hexagonal turret, in which are winding staircases, leading to a small chapel over the porch, which projects before the more ancient one of the cathedral, and which is also vaulted with stone, and has ribs diverging in three directions from each corner; those on the sides forming the arch of their respective walls, and those in the middle meeting in a centre orb, which is adorned with foliage: similar ribs also meet the orb at right angles from the opposite sides. At the south-east angle of the ancient porch there is a small circular tower, having a winding staircase, which, reaching above the parapet, terminates in pediments, ornamented with crockets on the sides, and the heads of animals on the top.

On the east and west sides of the great transept, the summit of which is embattled, and its sides strengthened by massive buttresses, are two very lofty and narrow windows, of three lights, under sharp pointed arches, with small circular columns and mouldings, above which are corbels; and still higher, on the parapet towards the west, is sculptured a range of trefoil arches. On the east side are likewise two of the ancient Norman windows, with

circular arches; together with another small and circular tower, formed in the angle, and reaching above the roof of the transept. Between this and the lesser transept is a chapel, built by Bishop Stanbury, about the middle of the fifteenth century, and having two windows under obtuse arches. The arches of the windows on the north and east sides of the smaller transept are of the same form: and on the northern summit of this transept is a low and plain cross.

On the north side of the chapel, which is dedicated to our Lady, but which is now used as a library, are six windows, of the lancet form, supported by small circular pillars, similar to those in use at the beginning of the thirteenth century. Between these are circles excavated in the wall, in the centres of which are human faces, and other devices; above these is a series of intersecting arches and columns, the capitals of which are adorned with foliage; and a plain parapet surmounted the whole. A porch, vaulted and groined with stone, projects on this side, the outer arch of which is pointed, with a plain round moulding over it; the inner arch is likewise pointed, but it has the zig-zag ornament; the columns are plain and circular, but the capitals have some foliage on them: this porch leads to the vaults under the chapel; the east end of which has five lancet windows, those on the sides gradually declining in height from that in the centre; between each on the sides, are two niches under trefoil arches, and above are sculptured lozenges, and other ornaments, and still higher is a series of pointed trefoil arches, with battlements above and pinnacles at the angles. The windows on the south side are also of the lancet form, but they are divided into two lights by a single mullion; above them is sculptured a range or series of Saxon arches and pillars, intersecting each other; and still higher is a series of similar arches, but without columns. From this side projects a small chapel, built by Bishop Audley about the latter end of the fifteenth century. It forms three parts of an hexa-

gon; each part containing two windows under the flat or obtuse arch, which was introduced about that period: the upper windows are divided into six compartments, by two mullions and an ornamented transom; the lower windows are smaller, and of more simple construction. The parapet, which is embattled, has a row of small clustered pillars, sculptured under it, and supporting trefoil arches.

At the south end of the smaller transept are two large windows, each of which is divided by mullions into four principal lights, with cinquefoil arches, the spaces above terminating in a trefoil in the centre, and another on each side. The east windows consist each of four lights, under trefoil arches, and on the summit towards the south is a small stone cross. The south end of the great transept has one large window, under a flat or obtuse arch, with a second in a circular form above it, including a trefoil. The former is divided into six long narrow lights, under cinquefoil arches, and the head similarly divided into twelve parts, but the courses of the stone about it plainly shew this form to have been an alteration from the original window, and the same is also observable in a more pointed window towards the west; this side has likewise a smaller window under an obtuse arch, containing three principal lights, which are subdivided by transoms, each light terminating by a cinquefoil arch. The principal windows on the south side of the nave are seven in number, having strong projecting buttresses between them; they are similar to those on the north side, consisting of four lights under trefoil arches, the head having a cinquefoil in the centre, with two trefoils under it; above are corbels, representing roses, foliage, and heads of men and animals. The clerestory windows, which form part of the new work of the nave, are designed to imitate the former, being also under pointed arches, with corbels above.

The great or central tower, which has lost much of its primitive character, by modern reparations,

in its original state was massive and embattled, the whole being richly studded over with the nail-head ornament, and farther distinguished by a round moulding, triangular frette, zig-zag, and other appropriate decorations in the Saxon style. The disposition, however, of these ornaments, were in conformity to the pointed style; whilst each side of the tower contained two ranges of lights, four in each range, and in the lancet form. On the spire (which has already been mentioned as having stood upon this tower) being taken down during the late repairs, among other alterations, the battlements were raised higher, and pinnacles and crockets placed at the angles; and by flattening or reducing to an obtuse angle the roofs of the nave and transepts, an effect of additional height was given to the tower itself.

Though the former venerable appearance of the interior of this cathedral has been greatly destroyed by recent alterations, and by the removal of various sepulchral monuments, painted glass, &c. yet it may still be considered as very interesting. The nave is separated from the aisles by a double row of massive columns, which sustain circular arches curiously decorated with mouldings, of zig-zag, nail-heads, lozenges, interwoven twigs, and other ornaments; most of the capitals are plainly sculptured, except those nearest to the choir, which display some well-executed foliage. The arch, which adjoins the south side of the choir, has, however been altered from its original form, and stripped of its ornaments; those arches also nearest the west door have been rebuilt in a plain manner, since the fall of the west end. Over the arches is a range of arcades, under pointed arches, which are sustained on small clustered columns. The whole roof is vaulted and joined with stone, and divided by ribs into compartments of various forms, most of them being adorned with human heads and foliage. The entrance into the south end of the great transept is under a low and pointed arch, which formerly reached almost to the

ceiling, but which has been partly filled up. Over the door is a niche and pedestal, and somewhat lower, on each side, is a smaller pedestal.

The north end of the great transept, called St. Catharine's Aisle, is now used as the parochial church of St. John the Baptist. On the east it is divided from a smaller aisle by two arches on smaller clustered columns, having plain capitals on the side pillars, with a kind of volute to those in the centre; these arches are ornamented with ribbed mouldings, in various patterns. Above is a range of Arcades under trefoil arches of elegant workmanship; each arcade is divided by small columns, clustered and circular, into three open compartments, the head of every arch being ornamented with three quatrefoils in circles, and the mouldings corresponding with those of the arches. Between the outer mouldings of the several arches the wall is well sculptured in a Mosaic pattern, representing four leaves expanded in each square. The opposite or west wall is less decorated: it contains, however, a handsome circular arch, decorated with a double row of zig zag, resting on circular columns with square capitals. Previous to the late alterations the windows of the nave were ornamented with the arms of various noble families, &c. in painted glass.

The nave is terminated by a plain screen, through which is the entrance to the choir, under a pointed arch; above which is a large and well-toned organ, a noble circular arch extending over it, which supports the west side of the tower: this arch is decorated with zig-zag and nail-head ornaments. The choir is lofty and well proportioned, and contains 50 stalls, with ornamental canopies in the pointed style; these, though composed of wood, are painted of a stone colour, and under the seats are carved various grotesque and ludicrous devices and figures. On the sides of the altar, above the oak wainscoting, are rich open circular arches, with others still higher in the pointed style. The altar, which has a sump-

tuous and elegant appearance, is approached by a flight of seven steps.

In the passage or aisle, on the north side of the choir, is the entrance to the chapel built by Bishop Stanbury, the roof of which is vaulted, and adorned with sculptured niches, cinquefoils, and other devices. The walls are also ornamented with some well-executed foliage, and on the north and west sides they are likewise decorated with shields, some of them allusive to scriptural subjects, and others displaying the arms of the see and deanery of Hereford, &c.

Under the second window of the south aisle, is a curious and very ancient font, which, says Mr. Duncomb, "was recently brought from another part of the church: the diameter is nearly three feet, and the sides four inches in thickness, leaving a vacuity sufficiently large for the immersion of infants. On the outside are represented, in relief, the twelve apostles, in as many niches, under Saxon arches, studded with the nail-head ornament, and supported on pillars with foliated capitals, and further ornamented with the spiral band, zig-zag, and other corresponding decorations. Over the figures of the apostles, which are 15 inches in height, and much mutilated, is a broad band encircling the whole, marked in relief with a series of ornament, resembling the letter T, alternately inverted: the whole is of common stone, and supported on the backs of four sea-lions.

The Chapel of our Lady, which forms the eastern termination of the Cathedral, is now used as the Library, and contains a valuable collection of books and manuscripts, most of which relates to ecclesiastical history; but one of the greatest curiosities is an ancient map of the world, which was discovered under a pile of lumber some years ago; it is illuminated with gilt Saxon letters, and the different places appear to be marked by animals, houses, &c. but the full design cannot be traced, the whole being

so thickly covered with dirt. It is fixed within a frame, ornamented by foliage in the pointed style, and had originally shutters to preserve it from injury. The windows in this part of the building are in the lancet form, and are separated from each other by receding clusters of small pillars, supporting pointed arches, and richly ornamented with foliage and single leaves in open work of great elegance and lightness.

This chapel, says Mr. Gough, was probably erected by the lady whose tomb is in its north wall ; whose husband, as appears by the arms, was a Bohun, though not an Earl of Hereford. The ancient painting under the arch shews the lady in a nun's veil as on the tomb, with a church in her hand, pointing to a chapel at its east end, which she presents to the Virgin on her throne ; the secular priests (of Hereford no doubt) are following her. The effigies of the husband, which lie on an adjoining tomb, represent him in close armour, with the hands clasped on the breast, and a dog at his feet. Over him is a stone canopy, richly sculptured in the pointed style ; and in the front of the canopy are two human figures sitting, one holding a globe and a scroll, and the other with the hands clasped as in prayer. Beneath this chapel is a vault, or crypt, which, from its having been made a place of deposit for the human bones which were disturbed in the repairs of the cathedral, has of late years acquired the name of *Golgotha*.

From this chapel is an entrance into Bishop Audley's Chapel, which has a vaulted roof, groined with stone, and divided by small ribs into various compartments ; the ground of which is painted blue, and the ribs red, with gilt edges. In the centre orb is a representation of the Virgin Mary, gilt, and surrounded with a glory of the same ; the others are decorated with foliage, and various appropriate ornaments. The Gothic screen, which separates this chapel from the library, is painted and gilt, to

correspond with the ceiling; and on it nineteen saints and religious persons are represented, placed in compartments or niches under canopies, the whole being well wrought in stone, and richly painted in various colours.

Though many of the sepulchral memorials in this structure were defaced, and swept away at the Reformation, and others demolished in the time of the Civil Wars, yet those that remain are still numerous; many are however concealed by the pews in the north transept, and “more (says Mr. Duncomb, alluding to the brasses) were accidentally sold among the old materials disposed of, after the general repair in 1786; the last, which in a considerable degree might have supplied the want of appropriate decorations in the new part of the church, were fortunately rescued from the furnace by a friend of the arts, and are now placed in the collection of Richard Gough, Esq.

Among those monuments that remain, one of the most celebrated is that to the memory of the bishop Cantilupe, who died in the year 1282, and is said to have been the last Englishman who obtained the honour of canonization, which took place in the year 1310. This tomb, from the reputed sanctity of Cantilupe, was visited by pilgrims and travellers from all parts of Europe; and it is still regarded with veneration by the Catholics. It is composed of free-stone, in the altar form, and is placed under a low stone canopy, supported by arches, resting on low circular pillars, with square capitals. Round the tomb, under cinquefoil niches, are fourteen small full-length effigies of knights in armour, bearing shields. Matthew of Westminster relates that 163 miracles were performed at this tomb in a short space of time; indeed, so great was the reputation which he had obtained, that the succeeding bishops of Hereford waved their ancient arms, in order to assume the paternal coat of Cantilupe, which has been continued to the present time.

In arches of the walls, in the passage on the east side of the choir, are altar-monuments of several bishops, with their effigies episcopally habited, which, says Mr. Grose, from the similarity of taste in which they are executed, have given rise to a notion that they were all set up at one time; a moment's consideration of the great expense, all coming out of one purse, will immediately shew the improbability of this suggestion; in all likelihood the form of the most ancient served as a model for those succeeding. The faces of all the figures have been shamefully mutilated.

Most of the buildings dependant on the cathedral are situated on its south side, where also was formerly a beautiful octagon chapter-house, and a chapel, of very high antiquity. The former was situated a short distance from the end of the great transept. It was elegantly constructed in the pointed style of architecture. The roof was sustained in the centre by a single pillar, finely ornamented with figures and other devices. Beneath every window was a square compartment, containing five niches, in each of which was a well-painted figure, as large as life, representing our Saviour, the apostles, and various saints, kings, bishops, and other personages. The demolition of this structure was commenced during the Civil Wars, when it was stripped of its covering of lead, to cover the gateway of the castle, in consequence of which it fell into ruins, and its remains have lately been taken down by the chapter of Hereford.

The ancient chapel, which stood between the south side of the bishop's cloisters and the palace, was not improbably antecedent to the cathedral as well as to the episcopal palace. It was built entirely of stone, not excepting the roof, which was supported by four massive columns rising from the ground, and from which arches turned every way; above the roof was a square cupola, terminating pyramidically. The ground plan, independent of the

choir, and the space occupied by the west front, and its deeply recessed portico, formed a perfect square of about 40 feet. It consisted of two chapels, one above the other; the upper one being dedicated to St. Magdalen, and had several pillars against the walls, formed of entire stones. The lower chapel, which was some steps under ground, was dedicated to St. Catherine. The principal entrance was on the west, under a retiring arch, or series of arches, 16 or 18 feet deep, at the outward and inner extremities of which were columns of single stones 10 feet high. This intervening specimen of the architecture of remote ages has been entirely taken down, having been returned, by those who examined it under commission to inspect the ancient chapel, during the prelacy of Bishop Egerton, as ruinous and useless; in consequence of which orders were given for its demolition, though "it was well known (says Mr. Duncomb) at the time, that less than 20l. would have put it into as good repair as it had been in during 400 years;" indeed so strongly were the stones cemented together, that after one-third of the chapel had been taken down, the work of destruction was for that time relinquished, on account of the expense, which had even then amounted to upwards of 50l. It has, however, since been entirely demolished.

The Bishop's Cloisters, which are appropriated to the purposes of sepulture, and distinguished by the name of our Lady's Arbour, form a communication between the cathedral and the palace, and inclose an area of about 100 feet; the arches of the windows are obtuse, but the windows themselves are diversified by various ramifications. In the time of Edward the Sixth, the west side of these cloisters was destroyed, and a grammar-school erected on the site; but this having become greatly decayed, was taken down, about the year 1760; and a large edifice built partly of brick, and partly of stone, was erected by subscription on the spot, under an engage-

ment, that, in addition to the uses of a school, it should be applied to the triennial meetings of the three choirs of Hereford, Worcester, and Gloucester, and to other public occasions, in consequence of which it has been termed the Music Room.

The Bishop's palace, which is an ancient building, is pleasantly situated at a little distance from the banks of the Wye; its outward appearance is by no means prepossessing, though many of the apartments are fitted up with elegance: the gardens, which are extensive, occupy a gentle declivity contiguous to the river.

The Deanery and Prebendal Houses are situated nearly opposite the north-east angle and north side of the cathedral, but display nothing remarkable.

The College, which is a venerable pile of stone building, surrounds a quadrangle of about 100 feet, and is appropriated to the uses of the vicars choral, and besides the apartments for the vicars, it contains a spacious common-hall, a small chapel, and a library, the two latter are, however, in a state of dilapidation; this college appears to have been erected about the time of Bishop Stanbury, previous to which the vicars-choral had their residence in Castle Street.

The cathedral-yard, previous to the year 1791, was the burial ground for all the parishes in the city, and for many of the adjacent out-parishes; since which, however, the city parishes have each provided distinct places of interment.

The present members of the cathedral of Hereford are, a bishop, dean, two archdeacons, six residentiary canons, including the dean, a lecturer, a chancellor of the diocese, a chancellor of the cathedral, a treasurer, a sub-treasurer, a precentor, 28 prebendaries, a first and second master of the grammar-school, a chapter clerk, 12 vicars-choral, being priests including a custos, an organist, seven choristers, a vergers, and two sextons: the dean and residentiary canons constitute the chapter. Except

eight parishes, which form part of the diocese of St. David's, the episcopal jurisdiction of Hereford extends over the whole county; it also includes a very considerable portion of Shropshire, four parishes in Monmouthshire, eight in Radnorshire, six in Montgomeryshire, and twenty-one in Worcester-shire.

“In the jurisdiction which prevailed in the city of Hereford (says Mr. Duncomb) the bishops appear to have retained a more than common share of the civil authority. Nearly half of the city, together with a considerable portion of the suburbs, form a district entitled the *Bishop's Fee*; within this district the bishops have enjoyed very considerable privileges, and on particular occasions, their authority has altogether superseded that of the civil magistrate, by extending over the whole city. As lords of this fee, they exercised the ancient rights denominated from the Saxon, *Infangenethef*, and *Ulfangenethef*; by which they administered justice within their limits, and committed offenders to the custody of their own officers, in their own peculiar prison, which was situated within the walls of the episcopal palace. By *Chol*, and *Cheame*, or *Theame*, they restrained and judged bondmen and villains, with their children, goods, and chattels; and by *Sac* and *Soke* their tenants were excused from the payment of customary burdens and impositions. They also held an annual fair for the sale of merchandize within their fee; during its continuance their power extended to all parts of the city; the markets were transferred from the usual places to that appointed by the bishop; and a porter was sworn at each of the city gates to collect the tolls for his use. A bailiff was annually elected by a jury, together with a serjeant-at-mace, leather-searchers, and ale-conners; they regulated the assize of bread and beer; and courts-baron, leet, and pipoudre were held; and presentments, and other usual business, formally transacted.” Some of these privileges are said to have been contained

in a charter as early as the time of Edward the Confessor.

In consequence of these extensive privileges possessed by the episcopal see, there were in former ages frequent disputes between the bishops and the inhabitants of the city; but which generally terminated in the triumph of the church, and the submission of the people. At present, though the bishop's courts are still held, "the business transacted consists of little more than the formality of swearing in a jury, electing a bailiff and serjeant, and presenting and amercing all who owe suit and service, and having been summoned do not appear. The offices of porters, leather-searchers, and ale-tasters, have long been discontinued. The original charter of the above-mentioned fair was granted by Henry the First, about the year 1189, in commemoration of St. Ethelbert. It is still continued, with many of its formalities, and from the length of its duration, which includes the eve and whole octave of St. Ethelbert, has obtained the name of the Nine-day's Fair; and during this period, the bishop's bailiff, according to the ancient custom, acts as civil magistrate; and on the Sunday preceding, attends the cathedral and palace, with a mace-bearer, and other officers in procession. This fair is annually proclaimed on the 19th of May, being the eve of the feast of St. Ethelbert.

Besides the cathedral, previous to the Civil Wars, Hereford contained five distinct churches, viz. St. Peter's, All Saints, St. Nicholas', St. Martin's, and St. Owen's: the two latter were destroyed during the siege in the year 1645, and the church of St. John the Baptist, appears always to have been an appendage to the cathedral.

St. Peter's Church was founded soon after the Norman Conquest, by Walter de Lacy, who attended the Conqueror to England, and who had various manors and lands in this county assigned to him as a reward for his services. After the comple-

tion of the church, about the year 1085, he was accidentally killed by falling from the battlements, while inspecting the works. In the year 1101 this church, with all its appurtenances, was given by Hugh de Lacy, son of Walter, to the abbey of St. Peter's, at Gloucester, by which donation a religious fraternity, which had been instituted here, in honour of St. Guthlac, became subject to that foundation, and was removed into Bye Street suburb.— Previous to the Dissolution, no less than four chantries had been founded in this church; one of them, now the vestry, was originally open to the chancel on each side of which are seven ancient stalls, supposed to have been designed for the use of the brothers of St. Guthlac's Priory; these stalls are very elegantly carved into pannels, quatrefoils, &c. and have light and beautiful canopies of fret-work. The nave is separated from the aisles by octagon columns on the south side, and by pillars on the north. In the year 1793 this church was repaired, and partly rebuilt, at the expense of the parishioners. After the dissolution, the great tythes of this church were annexed to the see of Hereford, and in the time of Charles II., the rectory of St. Owen's was united to this church, but the right of individual patronage was preserved.

All Saint's Church consists of a nave, chancel, and side aisles, with a tower rising from the ground, and terminating in a lofty spire; on the north side the tower overhangs its base considerably, but it is sustained in its present situation by two new buttresses. The nave is separated from the aisles by circular columns, sustaining pointed arches; the roof, which is of timber, has ancient projecting angel brackets, pierced pannels, and pendants of foliage and flowers. Here are several stalls, supposed to have been appropriated to the brethren of the hospital of St. Anthony, in Vienna, to whom this church was given by Henry III. and who appear to have formed a small society here to superintend their property, as

early as the 22nd of Edward I. The elbows of the stalls exhibit grotesque carvings of men and animals, and the lower parts of the seats are likewise filled with whimsical representations; the canopies are light and elegant, being beautifully ornamented with fret-work of quatrefoils, roses, and foliage. Under the west end of this edifice, and contiguous to it, are several subterraneous passages, and vaulted apartments. In this church as at St. Peter's, were four chantries, the collective revenues of which were, at the time of their dissolution, estimated at 20l. 1s. 6½d. per annum.

St. Martin's, which is now annexed to the parish of All Saints, was originally the mother church, as appears by a valuation made in the time of Edward the First, in which All Saints is distinguished as the chapel.

St. Nicholas' Church, which is a small edifice, consists of a nave, north aisle, and chancel; this fabric, though recently repaired, is still in a state of decay, and the chancel has the singular appearance of falling two ways, the north and south walls both leaning outwards. Here were formerly two chantries in honour of the Virgin Mary, which were endowed with lands to the amount of 9l. 11s. 4½d. per annum,

Besides the above places of divine worship, Hereford contains a meeting-house for each of the following denominations of sectaries, Methodists, Dissenters, Roman Catholics, and Quakers.

Several monasteries and religious houses existed in this city and its suburbs previous to the reformation, but most of them are now down, and the sites occupied by other buildings. The oldest foundation, independent of the cathedral, was a community of Prebendaries in honour of St. Guthlac, and whose chapel, says Leland, 'was once a fayre building of a circular forme.' These prebendaries were afterwards translated to the church of St. Peter, which being given, as before-mentioned, to the Ab-

bey of St. Peter's, at Gloucester, the provost and secular canons were changed into a prior and benedictine monks, who were subordinate to the above abbey, and were removed into the east suburb, without Bishopgate, were Robert Betun, bishop of Hereford, gave them a piece of ground, on which was built the monastery of St. Peter, St. Paul, and St. Guthlac, which was valued upon the dissolution at 121*l.* 3*s.* 3*d.* per annum. This priory is represented in the Harleian Manuscripts to have been "very pleasant and large, having much land, spacious gardens and orchards, fine walls, a rivulet called Eigne, running under the walls, with stately chambers and retirements, and a large and melancholy chapel, built with many descents into it from the ground, and then of a great height in the roof." The site of this monastery is now occupied by a new County Gaol and House of Correction, on the plan of the benevolent Howard.

On the north side of the city are some remains of a monastery of Black Friars, or Friar's Preachers, who were originally established in the Port Field, about the year 1276, under the auspices of William Cantilupe, brother to bishop Cantilupe. On the dissolution, the site and buildings of this priory were granted to John Scudamore, Esq. of Wilton, and William Wygmore, Gent. of Shoddon, but early in the reign of Elizabeth they came into the possession of the Coningsby family, from whom the estate has descended to the present Earl of Essex.

The principal vestiges of this monastery are some decayed offices, and the remains of a cross, or stone pulpit, being originally built for the purpose of preaching from; it is constructed in the form of a hexagon, open on each side, and surrounded by a flight of steps, gradually decreasing as they ascend: in the centre is a base of the same shape, with two trefoil arches on each side, supporting the shaft of the cross, which branching out into ramifications from the roof of the pulpit, and passing

through it, appears above in a mutilated state; the upper part is embattled, and each angle supported by a buttress. A large alder, which having forced its way in four stems through the joints of the steps; and one of its branches twining round the pillar, and passing out through an arch of the hexagon, adds greatly to the picturesque effect of this beautiful remain of antiquity. The south side of the prior's lodgings is tolerably entire, being sustained by three buttresses. In the basement are two oblong windows, each of which is divided by two pillars into three compartments, having cinquefoil arches, and at the south-west corner is a circular tower. The wall on the north side, which is mantled with ivy, is supported by buttresses, but is much dilapidated.

Near the river, and not far distant from Wye-Bridge, was a house of Grey Friars, founded by Sir William Pembrugge, in the time of Edward I. and dedicated to St. Guthlac. No vestiges of the Friary buildings are now standing; the last remains appear to have been pulled down about the latter end of the seventeenth century, and on the site a manufactory of gloves is established.

Besides the above religious foundations there were several others in this city, of which not any interesting particulars have been handed down. Among the charitable establishments, those of the most ancient date are St. Giles' Hospital and St. Ethelbert's Alms Houses; the former, which is situated without St. Owen's Gate, was originally founded in the year 1290 for Friars Grisey or Savignian Monks, but afterwards became the property of the Knights Templars; on being seized by the crown, it was given by Richard the Second to this city, and appropriated to the purpose of an Alms-house, in which five poor men are supported, each being allowed 4l. 10s. monthly, and clothes every third year. In the year 1770, this hospital was rebuilt by voluntary subscription; to each residence is a piece of garden ground attached.

St. Ethelbert's Alms-House was erected in the reign of Henry III. principally by indulgences and relaxations of penances, which were granted by the Bishops of Hereford, Coventry, Salisbury, and Ely, to those who contributed towards it. "The means of support, (says Mr. Duncomb) must have been very considerable at one period, as it appears, by the statutes of the Hospital, that alms were distributed daily to 100 persons, '*ubi centum quotidie refector fuisse, regimus.*' Possibly a portion of the offerings made by those who visited the tomb of Ethelbert, was appropriated to this purpose." The revenues at present amount only to 65*l.* per annum, which are applied to the maintenance of ten poor women, each of whom has an apartment and a garden.

A short distance south-east from the ruins of the Black Friars Monastery is Coningsby Hospital, a charitable foundation, began in the year 1614 by Sir Thomas Coningsby, Knt. on the site of a small hospital, anciently belonging to the Knights Hospitallers of St. John of Jerusalem. This hospital is endowed with estates in Leicestershire for the reception of two most valuable characters in society, the worn-out soldier, and the superannuated faithful servant. It consists of a corporal, chaplain, and 10 servitors; the corporal or president, who collects the rents, &c. has 20*l.* per annum, and is allowed to marry; and each of the servitors 1*l.* 1*s.* $\frac{1}{2}$ *d.* monthly. The vicarage of Bodenham, with all its appurtenances, was directed, by a codicil in the will of the founder, to be given to the successive chaplains. The adjoining ruins of the Black Friars supplied the materials for this edifice, which was constructed in the form of a quadrangle, and comprised twelve apartments, a chapel, hall, and suitable conveniences; over the door, in the centre of the hospital, are two small Ionic pillars, inclosing a tablet, with the Coningsby arms: the front of the chapel terminates with two arches, over which is the shaft of a cross;

the inside is quite plain ; a piece of garden is attached to each dwelling.

Several other Hospitals and Alms-Houses, both for men and women, are distributed through this city and its suburbs ; and various tablets of donations for the support of the poor, are also hung up in the different churches.

The General Infirmary, which is pleasantly situated near the river, a short distance south-east from the Castle Walks, was first opened for the reception of patients, on the 26th of March, 1776. The original promoter of this institution was the late Rev. Dr. Talbot, rector of Helenswick ; the ground on which it was built was given by the late Earl of Oxford ; and the expense of the building itself was defrayed by a very ample subscription, chiefly raised among the nobility and gentry of the county ; the annual subscriptions, for defraying the expenses of the Institution, amount to about 400*l*. In this edifice are accommodations for 70 persons, with every convenience for attendants and nurses. It continues to be ably conducted, and well supported by subscriptions and bequests.

The Lunatic Asylum is situated on the north-east of the Infirmary, and was erected for the reception of 20 patients afflicted with insanity : this also was instituted by subscription ; but is now converted into a private receptacle for lunatics, under very judicious and skilful superintendance.

The education of the youthful poor is provided for by a Charity School, called the Blue School, which is partly supported by voluntary contributions, and partly by the revenues arising from donations and legacies ; in this school 50 boys and 30 girls receive instruction and clothing, and small sums are given to provide many of them with apprenticeships. There are also Schools on Dr. Bell's system, for boys and girls, which are well supported.

The new County Hall, which stands on the site formerly occupied by the County Gaol, and some

adjoining premises, near St. Peter's Church, is an interesting and noble building, worthy alike of the County and Mr. Smirke, the Architect, under whose directions, and the able superintendence of Mr. Heather, builder of Hereford, it was erected in 1817. The front or portico, of stone, is supported by eight fluted pillars of the Grecian Doric, resting on a flight of steps, and surmounted by a pediment; under are ornaments of the Doric order, consisting of triglyphs with metopes between, and mutes above. Three plain doors lead into the entrance Hall, terminating with a flight of steps, leading to the County Hall, and from the entrance Hall are passages to the courts of law, apartments for the judges, over the grand jury and record rooms; and the seats of the magistrates, council, and jury, in court, as also the offices of the clerk of the peace. The *Crown Court* occupies the north side, and the *Nisi Prius Court* the south side of the building, with seats for those who wish to hear the trials, and each point is beautifully fitted up with solid oak on a plain, combining convenience and elegance for the administration of justice. The Crown Court, has a subterraneous passage, by which the felons are brought into court, and they are kept, during the trials, in an apartment for the purpose. The County Hall, where the music meetings and county meetings are held, is a spacious and lofty room, excellently adapted for the occasions, and it is adorned with beautiful portraits of the late King George III. and the late Duke of Norfolk. Under it, is the dépôt for the arms of the Militia. The County Hall is, in length, 70 feet 6 inches, in breadth, 48 feet, and 36 feet high. The two Courts are each 46 feet long, 39 wide, and 26 feet high. The building is highly ornamental to the city.

The Old Shire Hall stands in an area, called the High Town, nearly in the centre of the city: it is composed principally of wood, and forms an oblong square; its length being 84 feet, and its breadth

34; at present it consists of only one floor, supported on three ranges of pillars; but in its original state (says Mr. Duncomb) "it had a second floor, divided into apartments for the accommodation of the fourteen trading companies of the city, viz. bakers, barbers and barber-surgeons, blacksmiths, braziers, butchers, clothiers, coopers, cordwainers, glovers, joiners, mercers, tanners, tilers, and weavers." This floor was removed some time since from motives of safety. Under the Shire Hall the markets for grain are held, and near it a market for vegetables. This edifice is supposed to have been erected in the reign of James I. by John Abel, the expert carpenter who constructed the mills on which the safety of the city so much depended during the siege in the year 1645.

Near the old Shire Hall, on the north side, are the public markets, erected in 1815, for the sale of poultry, butter, butcher's meat, fish, &c. &c. on market days, and are excellently adapted for the purposes for which they were erected. The markets are well supplied with the finest poultry and meat, and the prices are generally reasonable. Adjoining to the markets, at the entrance from Widemarsh Street, are the Guild Hall, and City Sessions room, where the business of the city is transacted, and also the Hereford Saving Bank.

The County Gaol, which, as before mentioned, occupies the site of the Priory of St. Guthlac, was completed in the year 1797, under the superintendence and from the designs of Mr. J. Nash. It is inclosed within a high brick wall, having a handsome rusticated gateway, with Tuscan pillars; the keeper's apartments have also a rustic front and pediment. The prison is very extensive and well managed, having a house of correction, work-shop, inspection-room, infirmary, chapel, debtor's rooms, &c. together with four courts and gardens. The expense of erecting this edifice, which is clean and well regulated, amounted to upwards of 18,000*l*.

The City Gaol formerly composed one side of Bye Street gate, over which, in niches, were two rude representations of human figures chained. This prison bears marks of considerable antiquity, and contains one small cell, and three very high apartments, with a window in each; by the interposition of Mr. Nield, a dungeon, beneath this prison, which was formerly used for the purpose of confinement, has been converted into a cellar. It has latterly, been greatly improved.

The permanent Library is in St. John Street, and contains an excellent and constantly increasing collection of books. The subscribers are numerous, and the establishment is well supported. Near the library, is a billiard room, open to subscribers to it and their friends.

The Wye Bridge is supposed to have been constructed about the end of the 15th century; it consists of six arches, one of which was rebuilt after the siege in the year 1645, the former one having been destroyed to prevent the approach of the Scots. By the construction of this arch, the height of the bridge was considerably reduced, which has given it an irregular appearance.

Among other amusements, such as concerts, assemblies, &c., a company of players, who are accommodated with a neat little theatre in the Broad Street, furnish entertainment for the inhabitants every other winter. In a plain, known by the name of Wide-marsh, is a horse course, on which races are usually run in the month of August; these are succeeded by balls in the evening. Once in three years, in the month of September, is held a meeting of the three choirs of Worcester, Hereford, and Gloucester, at which time, oratorios, and other pieces of sacred music, are performed, for the benefit of the widows and orphans of the inferior clergy, by the gentlemen of the three choirs, assisted by some of the principal performers from Oxford and London. On the evening of each day there is a concert at the music

room; this is repeated during the course of three days.

Some years ago there was carried on a considerable manufactory of gloves at this place, but it is at present on the decline; large quantities of cider, grain, and oak bark, are conveyed down the river to Bristol, and other places; and by means of the same navigation, the city is supplied with coals from the Forest of Dean.

The weekly markets are on Wednesdays and Saturdays, for poultry, butter, eggs, &c.; and on Friday, for live-stock: also a great market on St. Andrew's day, for cattle, horses, &c. Fairs, first Tuesday after February 2; Wednesday in Easter-week, July 1, and October 20. At this last, a considerable quantity of salted butter is brought from the adjacent counties of Wales.

Hereford gives the title of Viscount to the family of Devereux, the creation of which title was in the reign of Edward VI. It sends two members to parliament, the first return being made in the reign of Edward I. The right of election is vested in the freemen only, whose number is supposed to amount to about 1200.

The first regular grant of privileges to the inhabitants of Hereford, as an incorporated body, appears to have been in the time of Henry III.; these were confirmed, and occasionally enlarged, in the eighth of Edward II., and the first and fifth of Edward III., and the seventh of Richard II., when the name of bailiff, which had been before given to the chief magistrate, was changed to that of mayor: this charter was further confirmed by succeeding princes to the time of James I., who, in a new charter, consolidated the privileges of the inhabitants, and ordained that the corporation should thenceforth consist of a mayor, six aldermen, and common council, having a chief steward, a common clerk, a prothonotary, a sword-bearer, and four sergeants at mace; the common council to consist of

31 persons, including the mayor and six aldermen. This charter, under which the city is still governed, was wrested from the inhabitants in the reign of Charles II. but was restored towards the conclusion of the reign of his successor, and confirmed by William III. in the ninth year of his reign.

Hereford is situated 135 miles from London, and consists, according to the late returns, of 1763 houses, and 9090 inhabitants.

Few cities have latterly been more improved in appearance than Hereford, by removing old buildings, erecting new ones, widening the streets, and other measures of public utility and private convenience. It is governed by a Mayor, and six Common Council Men or Magistrates: is paved and lighted under the superintendence of commissioners appointed for the purpose; and, throughout the year, watchmen are on duty during the night, who are paid by an assessment on the inhabitants. Its Charitable Institutions are numerous, in well-endowed Hospitals, under the governorship of the Magistrates and Corporation, who discharge the duty with exemplary rectitude, and the benevolence of individuals support the Infirmary, Charity schools, a Lying-in Charity, a Benevolent Society for the relief of the destitute poor, oppressed by sickness and disease, and other charitable Institutions. Its situation, in a valley richly cultivated and grand by the meandering beauties of the Wye, is healthy and beautiful, and its neighbourhood abounds with delightful walks and rides, where landscapes, grand and lovely, claim the admiration and gratify the feelings of the beholder, on every side.

A meeting of the inhabitants of Hereford was held, in the summer of 1822, to take into consideration the propriety of erecting a bridge over the Severn, to shorten the distance between Hereford and Cheltenham, and facilitate the communication with London. E.B. Clive, esq. in stating the advantages of the measure, said that nearly seven miles would be

saved between that city and Cheltenham. The resolutions of the meeting were agreed to.

Many persons of considerable eminence and celebrity have been born in this city; among those who have been most distinguished are Eleanor Gwynn, or as she was more familiarly denominated, Nell Gwynn, and David Garrick, Esq. The former was born in an humble dwelling in Pipe Lane, but becoming an inhabitant of the metropolis, she was engaged in the service of a fruiterer, and in that profession first appeared in the lobby of a theatre. From the sprightliness of her temper, and the affection of the manager, she was introduced upon the stage, and quickly became a general favourite, and soon attracted the notice of Charles II. who was so much interested by her vivacity and humour, that he made her a partner of his bed. She did not, however, immediately quit the theatre, but still continued to display her talents in the sprightly effusions of the comic muse. About the year 1670, she was delivered of a son, who was afterwards created Duke of St. Alban's; and her grandson attained the honours of prelacy, and became the proprietor of that very episcopal palace, which almost adjoined the humble cot where his maternal ancestor first drew her breath. In the high sphere in which she was placed she displayed great liberality, and at that period, her situation, not being considered in the least disgraceful, she obtained a considerable degree of popular approbation; and even to the present day her memory has been cherished with a much greater portion of general esteem than is usually obtained by the mistresses of profligate monarchs; but her errors have been eclipsed by her munificence; and her generosity in promoting the establishment of Chelsea Hospital, will preserve the remembrance of her name to the latest ages; even the idea of that admirable institution is traditionally said to have originated with her. She died in the year 1691, at her house in Pall Mall.

David Garrick, an actor of inimitable powers, was born at the Angel Inn, in Widemarsh Street, in the year 1717. His father, who was a French refugee, at that time held a lieutenant's commission in a regiment of horse then quartered in this city, but the place of his general residence being at Litchfield, young Garrick and his mother were removed there, as soon as the latter had recovered her health. His education, which was liberal, though principally intended to fit him for mercantile pursuits, was partly obtained at the Litchfield Grammar-school, and partly under the tuition of Dr. Johnson, who at a subsequent period accompanied his pupil to London, in search of employment. Garrick, having previously been an assistant in the wine trade to his uncle, who was a Lisbon merchant, embarked in the same business with his brother in the metropolis, but having early imbibed a passion for the stage, he was at length induced to engage in the theatrical profession, and in the summer of 1741, he made his first public appearance, at the Ipswich Theatre, under the assumed name of Lyddal, in the character of Aboan, in Oroonoko. His success was so great, that it determined him at once to make the stage his ultimate pursuit; and in the December following he appeared at London, at the theatre in Goodman's Fields, in the character of Richard the Third. In this character he displayed such excellence, and the seeing a young man, in no more than his 24th year, and a novice to the stage, reaching at one single step to that height of perfection which maturity of years and long practical experience had not been able to bestow on the then capital performers of the English stage, was a phenomenon which could not but become the object of universal admiration; even in a sister country his talents proved no less attractive, and such crowds attended his performances at the Dublin theatre, that the confined air, combining with the heat of the weather, produced a fever, which proved fatal to many

and was distinguished by the name of Garrick's Fever. On his return from Ireland, he was engaged at Drury Lane Theatre, of which, in the year 1747, he became joint patentee with Mr. Lacy, and opened it in the ensuing winter under his own management. His exertions were accompanied with every degree of success, till the season of 1754, when the enmity of public prejudice having been excited by his engaging a number of foreigners to fill up the parts in various dances and balls, which he had projected to introduce; but being aware of the intended opposition, he obtained a kind of sanction for the performance of the first piece, which was entitled the "Chinese Festival," from the king, by whose command it was once played, without any particular disturbance; but on the second night of its representation, the clamour increased to riot, and the interior of the theatre was rendered a complete ruin, the benches being torn up, the lustres and girandoles broken, and the scenery destroyed; and the protection of the soldiery was necessary to preserve the house from demolition. In consequence of this, it became necessary to withdraw the piece, and proper explanations having been published, the tumult subsided, and Garrick again became the general favourite. In the year 1763 his health being impaired, he made the tour of France and Italy, and on his return introduced several considerable improvements in the modes of conducting the business of the stage. In the year 1776, his increasing infirmities, however, compelled him to abandon his profession as an actor, and his retirement was universally lamented among the admirers of the drama: his last performance was the character of Don Felix, in the Wonder. In January, in the same year, he sold his moiety of the theatre to the late R. B. Sheridan, Esq. and two other persons, for 35,000*l*. He died on the 20th of January, 1779, at his house in the Adelphi, after an afflicting illness of several years, and was buried in Wetsminster Abbey, where

a monument has been erected to his memory. Great praise is due to Garrick for his judicious revival of many old plays, particularly Shakspeare's: he was himself likewise the writer of several excellent dramatic pieces, besides numerous prologues and epilogues of distinguished merit.

We find another literary gentleman who did honour to his native city of Hereford, in the person of William Havard, Esq. who died in May, 1811, at his house at South Lambeth, in the 76th year of his age. He was one of the partners in the city and county bank of Hereford, a gentleman whose industry, benevolence, integrity, and worth, entitle his memory to more than ordinary notice. Mr. Havard was born in St. Owen's-street, Hereford, where his parents kept a small shop; and their circumstances were so remote from affluence, that when (like his countryman Whittington) he left his native place to pursue his fortunes in the metropolis, he had not sixpence in his pocket on his arrival in London. From this period, such was the perseverance, ability, and success with which he applied himself to business, that he gradually rose, with increasing honour and esteem, from clerk to partner, in the house of Mr. Jones, M. P. for Devizes, in Mansion-house-street. Thus becoming enrolled in the first class of British merchants, Mr. Havard was frequently consulted in the most difficult and important adjustments of mercantile accounts; and has now bequeathed to five daughters more than 10,000*l.* each, the fruits of his own exertions and personal industry. His house and the hospitalities of his table were not only open to his countrymen in general, but many of his younger friends, from Hereford, will gratefully acknowledge how materially they have been aided by his powerful interest, and valuable advice. Nor were these the only prominent features of ability and worth in the character of Mr. Havard: The Banks of the Lug, and other similar effusions, acknowledge him as no despicable poet; but perhaps it is less known, that

he not only aided Mr. Dibdin, in his work called *The Bye-Stander*, but also contributed some of those popular productions which are so happily calculated to excite the daring of our gallant tars. Of these, the well-known words of "My Poll and my Partner Joe," were written by Mr. Havard; and it is said that 20,000 copies of that ballad were sold within a very short period after its publication.

On leaving Hereford, we proceed in a southerly direction, and at the distance of four miles, pass through the small village of Callow, two miles to the south-east of which, on the summit of a bold and extensive eminence, called Aconbury Hill, which is partly covered with young wood, and commands a most delightful view over the adjacent country, are the traces of a large camp, of a square form, the rampart on the east side of which is very conspicuous.

At the village of ACONBURY, situated about one mile to the east, was a nunnery of the order of St. Augustine, founded and endowed in the time of King John, by Margery, wife of Walter de Lacy; its revenues, at the time of the dissolution, were estimated at 75*l.* 7*s.* 5*d.* per annum. This estate is now the property of Guy's Hospital, having been purchased with Wilton Castle, and other estates in this county, belonging to the Lords Chandos, during the last century. The remains of the nunnery have been fitted up as a farm-house.

At the distance of about five miles from Callow, on the left of our road, is Harewood, the ancient residence of the Hoskyns family, and now the residence of Sir H. Hoskyns, Bart. The mansion, which is situated in a park well wooded, is a plain structure, and has been much improved, and partly rebuilt by the present owner.

About one mile and a half to the south of Harewood is the village of Hén-llan, commonly called HENTLAND, which Taylor observes, in his history of gavel kind, "signifies the *Old Church*, and in

certain pastures belonging to a farm in that parish, there is a place which to this day is called Llan-frawtwr, which is as much as to say, the Church or Convent of the Brethren; the site whereof was upon a small hill, not half a mile distant from Hentland; the ruins of which place, with its old foundations, are yet to be seen, and was a place dedicated to holy use: there it was that the great college for one hundred students was founded by St. Dubricius, the prince of this region, (to repel the progress of Pelagian heresie), who succeeded his grandfather Pibanus, King of Ergin, the old name of Urchenfield, and in the days of King Arthur was made Archbishop of Caerleon." At particular seasons, the foundation of extensive buildings may still be traced on the summit of an eminence rising from the western bank of the Wye; all the materials, however, that were above ground, have been used in the construction of walls, &c.

A short distance to the south-west of Hentland is an ancient square camp, called *Geer Copp*, and about two miles to the north-east, on a hill, is another but smaller camp, called Caradoc, or Cradock, which is also the name of a seat here, belonging to the Digby family. The manor-house, which is a venerable building, is pleasantly situated on a bank rising above the Wye.

A considerable district in this part of the county was formerly comprehended by the name of Irchenfeld, of which Mr. Gough says, a learned author affirms, that he has seen a record, wherein the inhabitants of this district "are left, as it were, to their own liberty, and to be *extra comitatum*; that is, not bound up to any strictness by the country laws; lastly, the tenure whereby they hold their lands is gavelkind, which is a partition among all female children; with this difference only to the eldest son, that certain principals as they call them, pass to him as heirlooms, and are not subject to partition; such as the best beast, the best bed and furniture, the best table,

&c. which tenure, and those other enumerated customs, they do for the most part still retain as derived to them from great antiquity, even before the Norman Conquest; for they are recorded to have been *Consuetudines Walensium tempore regis Edwardi Confessoris*.

These customs were as follow: "if any stole from the Welch, man or woman, horse, ox, or cow, he was, on conviction, to restore the thing stolen, and forfeit 20s. but for a sheep, or bundle of *manipuli* (i. e. clothes), 2s. Whoever killed one of the king's men, and fled, was to forfeit to the king 20s. for the murder, and 100s. forfeit: if the man belonged to a thane, the forfeit to the man's master was to be 10s. If one Welchman killed another, the relations of the deceased were to meet, and plunder the goods of the murderer and his relations, and burn their houses, till the body was buried about noon of the following day: the king was to have his third of the booty, and all the rest was to remain to them. Whoever was charged with firing a house, and could not clear himself by forty compurgators, was to forfeit 20s. to the king. Whoever was convicted of concealing one pint of honey in the custom, was to forfeit five pints for one, if his lands yielded as much. If the sheriff called them to the shire-mot, six or seven of the best were to go with him; and whoever refused to go on summons, was to forfeit 2s. or an ox to the king, *et qui de hundredet remanet* was to pay as much; the like fine for disobeying the sheriff's precept to go with him into Wales; for if the sheriff did not go, no one else need." (*Gough's Camden*.)

The district of Irchinfield frequently occurs in Welsh writings by the name of *Urging*, and is stated to have anciently been governed by independent sovereigns. At present there is no hundred of the name of Irchinfield; but the deanery so called includes the whole hundred of Wormelow, and one parish in Webtree.

Returning from this digression, at the distance of about seven miles from Harewood, on the western bank of the Wye, are the ruins of Wilton Castle, the present demolished state of which was owing to the royalist governors of Hereford, by whose orders it was burnt to the bare walls during the reign of Charles I. and in the absence of its then possessor, Sir J. Brydges. The remaining towers display a luxuriant mantling of ivy. For several centuries this castle was the baronial residence of the Greys, who derived from it their first title, and who became owners in the time of Edward I.

After crossing the river Wye, and at the distance of three quarters of a mile from Wilton Castle, we arrive at Ross, a market town, situated, upon a rock, on the eastern bank of the river Wye. It was made a free borough by Henry III. the bishops of Hereford being its lords, who formerly had a palace here, on a plot of ground near the church-yard; but this was in ruins even in Leland's time: the site is still called the Bishop's court.

The streets are mostly on a descent; and are extremely rough and narrow, the houses appearing huddled upon each other. The market-house is in a very decayed state, though erected so lately as the reign of Charles II. it is built of stone, and ascended by several steps; the upper part being sustained on semicircular arches, supported by three ranges of pillars, the space between them being open.

The Church, which is a handsome structure, having a tower, and well-proportioned spire, rising from the west-end, contains several monuments of the Rudhalls, the ancient proprietors of the manor of Rudhall, in this neighbourhood, and in the window over the altar, among other fragments of painted glass, is one representing a bishop, with the following inscription, THOMAS HEREFORDENSIS. The views from the church-yard, and contiguous field, called the prospect ground, are much celebrated for

their picturesque scenery; immediately below the eye, the river forms a fine semicircle, at one of the extremities of which are the ruins of Wilton Castle, and beyond it an extensive and luxuriant vale, terminated by the distant mountains of Pembrokeshire; indeed this town, from the pleasantness of its situation, has of late years become a kind of favourite resort for the numerous summer parties, who visit the Wye; and boats, &c. are kept here for the accommodation of those who make an excursion down the river.

The origin of Ross does not appear to be remote, though a few coins and medals have been found here, but not more than one or two of the Roman times, and probably these were originally brought from the ruins of Ariconium: neither do the annals of this town record any events of eminent historical interest; the adventitious lustre which it has obtained from its inhabitant, John Kyrle, the celebrated Man of Ross, has nevertheless given it a degree of attraction far beyond its local importance. This distinguished model of benevolence was born at Whitehouse, in Gloucestershire, and resided in the house now converted into the King's Arms Inn, in this town, where he spent his income (about 500*l.* a year,) in acts of utility and benevolence. He died in the year 1724, at the age of 84, and was buried in Ross Church; on his monument is a medallion of Charity supported by Benevolence. Among other public works, the prospect ground, adjoining the church-yard, and the walk that extends thence for nearly a mile to the southward, were formed by his liberality; he likewise raised the spire of the church, and enclosed a piece of ground with a stone wall, in which he sunk a reservoir for the use of the inhabitants. The exemplary tenor of his actions, his extensive charities, and goodness of heart, procured him the love of all his contemporaries, and Mr. Pope, during his visits at Holm Lacy, having obtained a sufficient knowledge of his beneficence, ren-

dered due homage to his worth in his Moral Essays, in which he thus celebrates, in glowing colours, but in this instance attempered by the pencil of truth, the virtues of this truly philanthropic character :

“ Who hung with woods yon mountain’s sultry brow ?
 From the dry rock who bade the waters flow ?
 Not to the skies in useless columns tost,
 Nor in proud falls magnificently lost,
 But clear and artless, pouring through the plain
 Health to the sick, and solace to the swain.
 Whose causeway parts the vale with shady rows ;
 Whose seats the weary traveller repose ?
 Who taught that heav’n-directed spire to rise ?
 ‘ THE MAN OF ROSS,’ each lisping babe replies !
 Behold the market-place with poor o’erspread !
 ‘ The Man of Ross divides the weekly bread ;
 He feeds yon alms-house, neat, but void of state,
 Where age and want sit smiling at the gate ;
 Him portion’d maids, apprentie’d orphans blest ;
 ‘ The young who labour, and the old who rest.
 Is any sick ? the Man of Ross relieves,
 Prescribes, attends, the medicine makes and gives.
 Is there a variance ; enter but his door,
 Balk’d are the courts, and contest is no more.

* * * * *

Of debts and taxes, wife and children clear,
 ‘ This man possess five hundred pounds a-year. [blaze !
 Blush grandeur, blush ! proud courts withdraw your
 Ye little stars ! hide your diminish’d rays.”

The government of the town of Ross is vested in a sergeant and four constables. In Camden’s time it was noted for its iron-works, which are yet carried on, with some trade in cider and wool. Here are two charity schools. Its market is on Thursday, which is well supplied with cattle, it is situated 124 miles from London, and contains, according to the late population act, 445 houses, and 1977 inhabitants.

At the distance of two miles from Ross, we pass through the village of WESTON, about one mile to

the east of which is the site of a Roman station, called Rose, or Bury Hill, which is supposed by some writers to have been the *Ariconium* of Antoninus : but which Camden, who records a tradition of its having been ruined by an earthquake, has placed at Kenchester. The area on which the city stood, according to tradition, occupied three or four fields. About forty or fifty years ago many antiquities were found here, together with an immense quantity of Roman coins, and some British ; among the antiquities were fibulæ, lares, lachrymatories, lamps, rings, and fragments of tessellated pavements. Some pillars were also discovered, with stones, having holes for the jambs of doors, and a vault or two, in which was wheat, of a black colour, and in a cinereous state ; and lately, in widening a road, several skeletons were likewise discovered here, as also the remains of a stone wall, apparently the front of a building : the stones were well worked and of a considerable size.

About one mile southward of Bury Hill, is the site of Eccleswall castle, which is now occupied by a modern mansion. This estate formerly belonged to the Talbots, from whom it came into the possession of the Greys, lords of Wilton ; it has, however, since passed from their descendants into other hands.

Returning to our road, at the distance of one mile from Weston, we arrive at the village of RIFORD, about one mile to the west of which is the site of Penyard Castle, which stood on the south side of the eminence. This fortress, which was originally of but small extent, is now reduced to comparative insignificance ; the only part now bearing the name of castle, is the habitation of a woodward, who lives here in complete seclusion from the haunts of man. This humble dwelling has a pointed window, and an octagonal embattled chimney ; and in the garden, which occupies part of the area of the fortress, some massy fragments of wall are yet visible, together with groined arches, and vestiges of pillars. In clearing the space for the garden many

human bones have been found, interred beneath a mass of small tiles, forced obliquely into the ground; and in digging among the ruins, a few years since, a kind of vestibule, or spacious passage was discovered, with octagon pilasters, having caps and bases in the Saxon style, from which spring semicircular groined arches, with handsome mouldings in good preservation.

The origin of this fortress is unknown; it appears, however, to have been constructed for the purpose of defending the narrow pass through the woods from Gloucestershire towards the counties of Monmouth and Pembroke, by the way of Walford and Goodrich; it also appears that the lords of Goodrich Castle were at times the lords of Penyard Castle; and among others the celebrated Talbots, earls of Shrewsbury. This castle was demolished during the Civil Wars, and after the Restoration, belonged to Anthony, Earl of Kent, but has since passed through several hands, and is now the property of William Partridge, of Goodrich, Esq.

On an eminence to the west of this castle is a large square camp, now partly overgrown by woods.

Between two and three miles to the west of Penyard Castle, on a finely-wooded promontory, round which the river Wye flows in a semicircular direction, are the massive ruins of Goodrich Castle. The earliest authentic accounts of this castle, are dated 1204; when William Marshall, earl of Pembroke, had a grant of it from king John. It afterwards was inherited by the Talbot family. During the civil wars, the king's party, and the parliament forces, alternately obtained possession of it. The following directions are from the second Number of Bonner's "Itinerary," which contains ten excellent views of the Castle, Abbey, &c. Having crossed the river at the ferry-boat, and a stile upon the left, proceed to the right, to the upper end of the close; and in the next meadow, a wicker stile conducts you, by a plain path, to the top of a steep wood, when the great

West Tower of the inner ballium breaks into view. Its appearance is venerable and interesting, but it is rapidly yielding to the ravages of time. On the right of this tower is the square keep, called *Mackbeth's Tower*, said to have been built by one Mackbeth, an Irish commander, as a ransom for himself and son, who were taken prisoners in Ireland, and brought hither. From the broken part to which the ground leads up, is a descent into the inner ballium, through a breach, by some stone steps. The door leads to the dungeon. Below this and Mackbeth's tower, are the small remains of the wall of the inner ballium, attached to the tower, which is finely hooded with ivy. The great buttress which it covers, is the chimney-place. The openings beyond and broken projections of the angle, belong to the *Ladies' Tower*. The ground below is the outer ballium. A station to the right, parallel with the former, facing the great tower, produces a view in front of the *South Tower* of the inner ballium, with the west and east towers as they flank the walls of the inner ballium. This tower is bedecked with ivy, and propped by angular buttresses. The west tower from this station presents a chasm not seen from the former. The broken parts upon the top of the wall, were the barracks; the higher projecting part adjoining, is the tower, which contains the chapel. The top of this and that of the watch-house, was the situation of the corps de garde. The bridge and castle gate, are defended upon each side by this and another tower at the east angle; the former has one semicircular arch, and another acutely pointed. The top is the level of the ground in the inner ballium, and the bottom of the pier is the depth of the fosse, graffe, or ditch of the ballium, which is hewn out of the rock to the breadth of twenty yards. From some trees, seen above the highest part of the castle, may be taken an inside view from the inner ballium. After the castle gate, that which is pointed was the only entrance to the

inner ballium: its strong hinges still remain; over it is the warden's apartment. The large opening is the window of the chapel, in the earliest Saracenic style. From a door-way in this part is seen the inside, without a roof. There is a large projecting fire-place, for a room over it, and below a cellar, with brackets which supported the floors, and a place for holy water in the chapel. The octagon contains a staircase which leads to the apartments over the chapel and gate. The top of it is the Watch Tower, rising above the other buildings. An inside view from the inner ballium, presents an opening in front, through which the rock, &c. is seen on the opposite side of the fosse or ditch; this is the effect of decay. It was the station from which the last description was made. Proceed to the inner ballium, and enter the door of the keep, or Mackbeth's Tower, which is a prominent part of the building. The windows are Saxon, the frames, pillars, with round shafts, bases, and caps. Below the upper window is a cheveron work, or zig-zag ornament, which is continued upon a fillet all round. The top is imperfect, but the whole bears indications of the twelfth century. The chapel appears to have been fitted up at a much later period. It answers completely to the description of an ancient keep: this part was likewise the citadel, or last retreat of the garrison; generally built square, of several stories, and the walls of an extraordinary thickness. Inside of the north-west wall, is a hole broken through. Nothing remains but the square area, the fire-places, and the brackets which supported the floors. On the south-east is a door which descends into a vaulted room under ground, and appears to have been the dungeon; it has another door which leads to it by a deep fall, and a third which is seen about the midway of the broken stone steps leading to the apartments in the south tower, to the parapet of the south-west wall, now decayed. The door at the foot of the steps leads to the under parts of the south tower, the whole of

which is connected with a range of apartments, which appear to have been either the barracks and lodgings, for the garrison and artificers, or granaries, storehouses, &c. unconnected with the other apartments, which were for the baron or governor, and family. The three small doors near the corner, lead to the privies, where is a deep vault belonging to them. The wall is garreted, but much broken; the openings are narrow windows and chinks, or cross loop-holes. The inner wall of these barracks may still be traced. The great pointed door-way is the entrance to the Great Hall, the building above it is the walls of the great tower. On viewing the inside of the Ladies' Tower, the apartment on the left appears to have been the kitchen, by the doors descending into the offices, cellars, &c. of that tower, in which the octagon pillar, and two sharp-pointed Saracenic arches, springing from corresponding brackets, which project from the side-walls, form a great contrast to the more ancient parts of the building. The track from this station proceeds to the window, whence a most cheerful view is presented over the Wye, with the village of Walford, its handsome church, and shingled spire, Walford Court-house, and the surrounding woods and hills. The terminating objects are the bold coppices of Penyard Chace and Park, Bishop's Wood, &c. Hence through the inner ballium gate, the track leads to the door and narrow passage of the two Watch-houses. Proceeding over the bridge you enter upon the barbican, now nearly level with the ground. From this station may be taken a general view of the castle, taking in front the fosse, and on the left the south tower, with the square part attached to it, and the keep rising beyond, over the wall of the inner ballium, which is from seven to ten feet thick. The foremost projecting part is the tower, flanking the wall, and contains the chapel. The broken loop-hole was a window to the cellar below it. Upon the level surface of the bridge, is

the pit of the draw-bridge, near the castle gate. This gate has sliding grooves for a portcullis. Re-enter the inner ballium, within which were the barracks and lodgings for the garrison and artificers, wells, granaries, store-houses, and chapel. Next visit the Great Hall, on entering which, immediately on the left, are stone steps, leading to the upper part of the Great Tower, &c. proceed through a small door, and looking up, only plain walls are to be seen, except fire-places, and brackets for the two floors. A breach in the wall allows a passage to the outer ballium. Returning, there are two small doors in the partition wall, besides one to pass through, leading to the Great Hall. There is here a large fire-place and three slender windows, with cross mullions, in the wall. In the wall is a small door leading to the kitchen, and another to the offices under the Ladies' Tower. Hence proceed back to the door you entered by the kitchen on the left, looking through the breach as you pass. Thence into the cellars of the Ladies' Tower, where is the octagon pillar, with its arches and pendent ivy. Proceed through a broken part of the North Tower, at the angle of the outer ballium, whence is a view of the breach made at the Ladies' Tower of the inner ballium. It was Colonel Birch who is said to have battered this part, through which is seen the octagon pillar, with the trees in the court over-topping the walls.

Flanesford (now called *Goodrich*) *Priory*, is situated in a fertile vale, about a quarter of a mile below the castle. It was a monastery of black canons regular of St. Augustine, founded 1347, by sir Richard Talbot. It is now used as a barn.

After contemplating the venerable remains of this castle, the beauties of the surrounding country are worth exploring, and may be accomplished in an easy walk. By descending thence to the river, and bending a course along its banks, for about three quarters of a mile, *Copped Wood Hill* is presented. The ascent will be relieved by a perpetual change

of scenery. The northern extremity should be first attained where the current of the river dashes against the base of the rock; whence it glides in a horse-shoe course of five miles, and revisits the hill again at its southern extremity, at the distance only of one mile across the neck of land. Penyard Park and Chase, form a noble back scenery; and Bishop's Wood, intersected with small groves and thickets, diversified with rocks, neat cottages, and detached enclosures, presents a striking peculiarity of style. If you proceed a little further, to a small white building, formerly the residence of a rabbit warrener, you command a view of the counties of Hereford, Monmouth, Salop, Worcester, and Gloucester, in England; and those of Glamorgan, Brecon, and Radnor, in Wales. The less distant parts of the picture are enriched by the village of Ruardean, three miles to the East, in the Forest of Dean, appearing hence on the summit of a beautiful lawn, winged by firs and forest oaks, with the river at its foot. To the north appears the spire of Ross, rising out of lofty elms. In the circle, nearer to view, are the villages of Whitchurch, Goodrich, Croose, Pencreek, and Walford. For a mile in length the surface of this hill is nearly level, exceeding pleasant and safe, whether on foot or on horseback. Proceeding along the path, you have in view the old mansion, venerable woods, and hanging gardens, of Court Field. Henry Prince of Wales, born 1388, at Monmouth Castle, and therefore called Harry of Monmouth, was nursed here. The cradle is now in the possession of — Whitehead, Esq. of Hambrook, French Hay, near Bristol. From the excellent quarry of this place, the stone was supplied for building the bridge at Bristol; whence an interesting view may be seen of Bishop's Wood Furnace. Here, and at the New-Wear, business seems to have found a convenient situation even in retirement. The village of Lidbrook, whence the city and greatest part of the county of Hereford are supplied with coal; the

churches of Welsh and English Bicknor, and Stanton, and Forest of Dean, contribute to the enrichment of the view. When arrived at the extremity which is bounded by the river, a range of massy and stupendous rocks, on the summit of the opposite shore, excites an awful admiration. The largest and most elevated of these rocks is called Symond's Yat or Gate; and is often visited by large parties, in the summer months, for the sake of the extraordinary prospects from it. Welsh Bicknor Church, lies at the distance of about half a mile from Court-field, and is visited by the antiquary on account of a sepulchral effigy, said to represent the countess of Salisbury, who nursed Harry of Monmouth, or Henry the Fifth. Mr. Coxe concludes his history of the proprietors of this manor with the following anecdote of the vigorous old age of an ancestor of the present proprietor. Walking one day with his son, who had been long married without issue, he challenged him to leap over a gate. The son attempted it without success; on which the old gentleman vaulted over it with great agility, adding, "As I have cleared the gate for you, so I must e'en provide you with an heir." And he fulfilled his proposal by espousing, at the age of seventy-five, Agatha, daughter of John Berrington, Esq. of Cowame-court, Herefordshire, by whom he left a son and three daughters.

About two miles to the east of Goodrich, are the iron works of Bishop's-wood furnace, and some powerful engines for stamping the ancient scoriæ, &c. to powder, which is manufactured here to considerable advantage.

*Journey from Ludford Bridge to Welsh Newton,
through Leominster and Hereford.*

Ludford Bridge is situated at the northern extremity of the county, over the river Teme, on the borders of Shropshire: on leaving which we proceed in a southerly direction, and at the distance of about four miles, pass, on our right, Richard's Castle, a fortress erected before the conquest, but of which

scarcely any vestige now remains. "This castle (says Leland) standeth on the toppe of a very rocky hill ; and at the west end of the parochie church ther, the keep, the walles, and the towers of it stand, but going to ruine : ther is a park impaled, and welle-wooded, but no deer."

At the distance of about ten miles, after passing through the villages of Overton, Bilberry, Poatway, and Luston, we arrive at LEOMINSTER, a market-town, situated in a very rich and fertile vale, abounding with orchards, hop-yards, fine meadows, and arable lands, the river Lugg flowing on its north and east sides, and two smaller streams run through the town. Its extent from north to south is nearly a mile, and from east to west, about half that distance. The streets in the centre of the town are narrow, and several of the houses are built of old timber and plaster, fantastically adorned with curious grotesque carvings, and coloured white and black, which have a most singular appearance ; most of the modern buildings, however, and which have much increased, are respectable edifices of brick.

"The towne of Leonminster (says Leland) is metely large, and hath good buildings of tymbre. The towne by reason of their principal wool, use greate drapinge of clothe, and thereby it flourished. Syns of latter days it chanced that the cittyes of Hereford and Worcester complained of the frequency of people that came to Lemster, in prejudice of bothe their markets, in the shyre towne, and also in hindringe their drapinge : whereupon the Saturday markett was removed from Lemster, and a market on Friday was newly assigned unto it : syns that time the towne of Lemster hath decayed.

"The antiquity of the towne is most famous by a *Monastery of Nunnes*, that Merwaldus, Kinge of the Marches, built there, and endowed it with all the land thereabout, saving only the lordships, now

called Kingsland; and it is supposed of Clerkes, that the old name of the towne toke beginning of the Nunnes, and was called in Welsh, Lan-Clheny; that is *locus vel fanum monialium*; and not of a lion that is written to have appeared to King Merwald. upon which vision he began, as it is said, to build this nunnery: other kings of the Marches immediately following King Merwald, were benefactors unto yt. Some say that the nunnery was after in the Danes wars destroyed, and that after a college of prebends set ther: the certenty is known that the abbey of Shaftesbury had rule at Lemster, and possessed much landes there, and sent part of the reliques of St. Edward the Martyr to be adored here. King Henry I. annexed the laws of Lemster to his abbey of Reading, and ther was a cell of monks instituted at Lemster by the abbots of Reading. Some say that the monks of the priory said that they had the scull of the head of Merewald, and of Ethelmund, Kings of Merch. Mr. Hacluit told me that the body of King Merewald was found in a wall in the old church at Wenlock.

“Ther is but one paroche church in Leonminster, but it is large, somewhat dark, and of ancient building, insomuch that yt is a greate likelihood that yt is the church that was afore the Conquest. The church of the priory was hard joined to the east end of the paroche church, and was but a small thinge. The common fame of the people about Lemster is, that King Merewald, and some of his successors, had a castle or palace on a hill by the side of the town of Leonminster, half a mile off by east. The place is now called Comfort Castle, wher be now some tokens of ditches, where buildings have been: the people of Lemster, and thereabouts, com once a year to this place to sport and play.”

At the period of the Doomsday survey, Leominster appears to have become a place of considerable importance, the manor, with its appurtenances, consisting of sixteen dependent estates, which had been

assigned by Edward the Confessor, to his queen Edith, or Editha, and that it was governed by eight *præpositi*, or bailiffs; eight *bedelli*, or beadles; and eight *radchenestri*, or free tenants; and that it contained 238 *villains*, 74 *borderers*, and 82 men and women servants.

The Church, which is dedicated to St. Peter and St. Paul, was erected at different periods; the north side (or what is called the back aisle) with part of the tower, appears to have been built before the Conquest; the body of the church, where service is performed, is very large, neat, and spacious; and the roof is supported by four large Tuscan pillars. It is regularly and neatly paved, and has a fine altar-piece, painted by Rubens, of the Lord's Supper; on the left side is a painting of Moses with his rod; and on the right Aaron, in his high-priest's dress, with a pot of incense, &c. with decorations. There is also a fine-toned organ, and in the tower is a ring of eight tuneable bells. A great fire, about a century back, destroyed the roof, east end, and inside of the church, with the stalls and monuments; one of the latter of which is described in 'Weaver's Monuments,' as being to the memory of Kenelm, a Mercian prince, with an inscription in Saxon characters.

The Priory near the church, mentioned by Leland, was originally a monastery, built by Prince Merewald, son of Pendra, king of Mercia, in the year 658, for religious virgins, and endowed with much land about the town; and at the dissolution its annual revenues amounted to 660l. 18s. 8d. of which sum 448l. was paid to the abbot of Reading. Some of the buildings are yet standing; among them is the Priory House, which, about a century ago, was rented by the corporation, and made a mansion-house for the bailiff, but has since been converted into a house of industry for the poor of the town. The north side, which has undergone the least alteration, has several lancet windows, and strong buttresses,

which also support the angles at the east and west ends.

Here is a Baptist meeting-house, a handsome new square brick building, with a house for the minister, and two other dwellings for widows adjoining, built and endowed by the late Mrs. Mary Marlow of this town; there are likewise Meeting-houses for Presbyterians and Quakers, and a Moravian chapel, with the minister's house adjoining; it is a neat plain structure, with a small organ.

The Town Hall or Butter Close, as it is usually termed, was built about the year 1638. It is a singular building, constructed of timber and plaster; the architect was the celebrated John Abel, who built the Shire-hall at Hereford, and constructed the mills during the siege of that city, in the year 1645. This fabric stands on twelve oak pillars, now sustained on stone pedestals, the brackets and spandrils of the arches above the pillars displaying much carving. The quarter sessions are held here, as also the assemblies of the corporation.

A new and neat market-house, for the sale of grain, was erected by the corporation in the year 1808; it is a small building of the Tuscan order, with pediments, and a cupola; it stands in a square to the eastward of the High Street.

Queen Mary endowed a free school in this town, the building of which was anciently a chapel dedicated to the Virgin Mary. Here is likewise a school endowed by — Pierrepoint, Esq.

Here are four Alms-houses, founded by Mrs. Esther Clarke, widow, in the year 1735, for four widows, with an annual income of five pounds to each, under the direction of five trustees.

The borough is a distinct precinct from the county; it holds quarter sessions and has a goal and a bridewell; it is divided into six wards, and was incorporated by Queen Mary; being governed by a high steward, a bailiff, a recorder, and twelve capital burgesses, who chuse a bailiff and a town clerk. It

has returned two members to parliament from the 23rd of Edward I. the right of election being in the freemen and inhabitants paying scot and lot, amounting to about 620; the bailiffs are the returning officers.

Formerly Leominster carried on a considerable trade in wool and wheat, which has now decreased. Flax of an excellent quality is grown in the neighbourhood, the land being particularly favourable for that plant. The market originally held on Thursday, has been changed to Friday, on the petition of the inhabitants of the cities of Hereford and Worcester, who complained of the decay of their trade. Its fairs are on the 13th of February, Tuesday after Midlent Sunday, May 14, September 4, and November 8.

Leominster is situated 137 miles from London, and consists, according to the late population act, of 777 houses, and 3,651 inhabitants.

About four miles north-eastward from Leominster is Berrington, formerly the seat and manor of the late Right. Hon. Thomas Harley, brother to the late Earl of Oxford, who was member for this county in five succeeding parliaments; it is occupied by Lady Rodney. The mansion is a square modern edifice, of white stone, situated in a pleasant park, the eminence to the south-east being covered with fine wood. On the north-east, near the angle of the roads leading to Eye and Brimpfield, is the site of a small camp.

At the distance of one mile to the south-east from Leominster, on the left of our road, is Eaton, formerly a seat of the Hackluys, of whom Walter de Hackluyt was high sheriff of this county during the four first years of Edward II. and the same office was also filled by several others of the same family down to the time of Henry VIII. "The chief and ancientest of the Hackluys, (says Leland) have been gentlemen in tymes out of memory; they took their names of the forest of Cluid in Radnorshire, and they

had a castle and habitation not far from Radnor." William Hackluyt, says the same author, was at the battle of Agincourt, and afterwards "set up a house" in this township: this mansion is now in ruins, and the chapel belonging to it is converted into an hop-kiln. In February 1800, a female, named Margaret Mapps, died at Eaton, at the great age of 110.

About two miles south-westward from Leominster, and one and a half to the right of our road, is Ivington camp, a strong fortification, divided into two parts by a more modern entrenchment than the outer works. This camp is supposed to have been occupied by Owen Glendour, on his retreat before the army of Prince Henry. In ploughing the interior parts, several coins, of the dates 1340 and 1390, have been found here of late years.

Returning to our road, at the distance of four miles from Leominster, we pass through the village of HOPE, in the church of which, consisting of a nave and chancel, built by the Coningsbies of Hampton Court, is a fine marble monument, erected to the late Earl Coningsby, whose remains, with those of Margaret his countess, and an infant son, are deposited in a vault under the chancel; also the remains of the Lady Philippa Coningsby, and others of the family. In a curious manuscript account of the funeral procession of the latter lady, after reciting every particular relating to her funeral, is the following singular conclusion: "And then, the next morning hunting, hawking, and good cheer, and so to continue two or three days; and such is the end of all flesh."

A short distance to the south-east of Hope is Hampton court, formerly the principal seat of George Capel Coningsby, Earl of Essex, but lately the property of Mr. Arkwright. This mansion was built under the immediate auspices of Henry IV. by his favourite Sir Rowland Lenthall, who, "being (says Leland) a gallant fellow, either a daughter, or very near kinswoman of the king's fell in love with him,

and in continuance was wedded unto him ; whereupon after he rose into estimation, and had given to him 1000*l.* by the year, for the maintenance of him and his wife, and their heirs, among which landes he had Ludlowe for one parte. This Lenthall was victorious at the battle of Agincourt, and tooke many prisoners there, by which prey he beganne the new buildings of Hampton Court, and brought from an hill a springe of water, and made a little pool within the top of his house." The lady above alluded to appears to have been a co-heiress of Richard Fitz-Allen, Earl of Arundel. In what manner the estate descended is not clearly recorded, but Camden mentions it as having been " for some time possessed by the Coningsbies, a famous family in these parts ;" and who purchased it of the Cornwells, Barons of Burford.

The mansion, which is situated on a spacious lawn, of nearly one hundred acres, is a magnificent structure, partaking partly of the castellated and partly of the monastic character. The buildings surround a quadrangular court, having a grand square entrance-tower in the centre of the north front ; and at each extremity another and smaller tower, the most eastern of which unites with the chapel. The entrance-tower is deeply embattled, and machicolated on both its faces.

The interior is commodious, and many of the apartments are fitted up with great taste, and a few years since was remarkable for much of the ancient furniture that constituted the magnificence of the nobility two centuries ago. In one of the rooms, called King Henry's, was till lately a bed, the hangings of which were said to be those belonging to the bed the king slept on, and were a very fine Scotch plaid, and another of the apartments, which is furnished in a splendid manner, having crimson damask hangings, and bed and canopy of the same, remains precisely in the same state as when used by William III. when he visited Thomas Baron Coningsby, a noble-

man particularly distinguished for his bravery at the battles of the Boyne and Agrim in Ireland. Above the present ceiling of the great hall is a wainscot roof, done in pannels, on which are carved roses and other decorations, which have been richly gilt and ornamented; at the lower end is likewise to be seen a coat of arms, painted on the wall, said to be the arms of King Henry IV. but much defaced.

Among the valuable paintings, preserved in this mansion, are some interesting pieces by C. Jansen, Holbein, Vandyck, Lely, Kneller, and Reynolds. One of the most famous among the old pictures is said, by Walpole, to be an undoubted original of Henry IV. Depending from the neck is a chain and medallion, on which are depicted the arms of the Fitz-Allens, Earls of Arundel; and beneath is the following inscription: "Henry IV. King of England, who laid the first stone of this house, and left this picture in it, when he gave it to Lenthall, who sold it to Cornewall of Burford, who sold it to the ancestors of the Lord Coningesby, in the reign of Henry VI." There is likewise to be seen here a gun, which the late Lord Coningsby had made of sword blades, taken from the Irish rebels at the battle of the Boyne, on the barrel of which is the following inscription, in gold letters:

"I in the tower, became a gun,
In seventeen hundred twenty-one;
Earl Coningesby, a prisoner there
Bespoke and took me to his care;
And fit I am for loyal lords,
Made of the blades of rebels' swords.
Traitors, beware, when I'm enlarg'd
When he or I shall be discharg'd.
For this, my first and true report,
Pray use me well at Hampton Court."

The battle of the Boyne was fought in the year 1690, between King William and James II. and in the library of Hampton Court is an ebony casket, upon the lid of which are miniatures of William III.

and Lord Coningsby, copied with much taste, from large pictures, by the present Lady Essex; in this box is the handkerchief applied by Lord Coningsby to a wound which King William received on his right shoulder, from a field-piece, as he was reconnoitering the situation of the enemy the day previous to the battle.

The chapel of Hampton Court still retains traces of its pristine appearance; the roof is of timber-work, and displays several carved ornaments, peculiar to the pointed style, and has various whimsical figures dispersed over it. Several of the windows contain painted glass, in various stages of decay; the arms, however, of Lenthall and others, are yet entire.

The scenery around this mansion is in a high degree picturesque and beautiful. About a quarter of a mile to the south-west flows the river Lugg, which at some distance below the house is joined by a beautiful little stream, that rises in the hills, about Leckley Heath, and meanders through the park in a south-westerly direction. Near the house is a good shrubbery, intersected by a pleasant walk, and at some distance is a neat residence for the steward. The park, which is entered by a very handsome lodge in the rustic style, is between seven and eight miles in circumference, and contains some fine timber, with about 1200 head of deer. In the park, during the floods, which frequently occur here in a rainy season, a fine cascade is formed by the rushing of the waters over a mass of broken rock.

To the north of Hampton Court, on an eminence, are the vestiges of a large camp, forming one of a continued chain, crossing this county in a north-east direction.

To the south-west of Hampton Court, and on the right of our road, is Dynmore Hill, a very considerable eminence, commanding some extensive prospects over the surrounding country. "The hill of *Dinesmore* (says Leland) is very steep, high, and well

wooded, and a *specula* to see all the country about. Ther stondeth a little by west of the very toppe on the left hand, as I rode, a commandry (preceptory), with a fair place that belonged to the Knights of St. John of Hierusalem in London." To whom, as appears from Tanner, it had been given by a brother of the order, in the time of Henry II. The lands of this foundation afterwards became part of the estate of Earl Coningsby, and are still, we believe, the property of his descendant, the Earl of Essex.

Returning to our road, at the distance of five miles from Hope, we pass through the village of WELLINGTON, about one mile to the south-east of which is SUTTON WALLS, celebrated as the site of the palace of Offa, king of the Mercians, where, as before-mentioned, the unsuspecting Ethelbert was treacherously murdered,

———"When to th' unhallow'd feast
Of Mercian Offa he invited came,
'To treat of spousals."

PHILLIPS,

Sutton Walls comprehends a spacious encampment on the summit of a hill, surrounded by a single rampart, having entrances on the north and south sides. The area, which includes about 30 acres, is nearly level, excepting towards the centre, where there is a low place, called Offa's Cellar, near which, in digging some years ago, a silver ring, of an antique form, was found.

Sutton is included in the extensive manor of Marden, which was an ancient demesne belonging to the crown, but given by King Offa to the canons of Hereford, then termed the presbytery of Marden, in expiation of the murder of Ethelbert.

At the distance of about eight miles from Wellington, after passing through the villages of Morton and Holmer, we arrive at Hereford, about six miles from which, on the right of our road, is MYND PARK, the seat of T. H. Symons, esq. The mansion, which is situated under the west side of Sad-

dlebow Hill, is a large plain structure of brick; and the grounds afford some rich and well-wooded scenery.

About three miles to the south-east of MYND PARK, in our road, is the village of ST. WEONARD'S, which derives its name from the dedication of its church to the British saint of that name, whose figure, represented as an old man sustaining a book, and an ox, was formerly in the north chancel window. Several of the ancient family of the Minors, who came over with the Conqueror, and were seated at Triago, in this parish, lie buried here.

At the distance of four miles beyond St. Weonard's, we arrive at the village of Welsh Newton, about one mile to the north-west of which was PEMBRIDGE CASTLE, which is mentioned as early as the seventh of Henry III. when William Lord Cantilupe was its governor. The castle is now totally demolished, together with an adjoining chapel, and the park has been ploughed up and cultivated.

About two miles to the south-east of Welsh Newton, are two eminences, called Great and Little Doward Hills, on the former of which are the remains of an ancient encampment, styled *King Arthur's Hall*; from which the ground gently declines to the river. On the summit of the latter, which is situated a short distance to the west, are also the vestiges of an ancient camp, near which, according to Gibson's Camden, broad arrow heads have been found: and in a place which appeared to have been arched over, an almost entire human skeleton was discovered, "whose joints were pretended (says Mr. Gough) to be twice the length of those of the present race."

Between the Doward Hills and Symond's Yate, or Rock, situated a little to the south, is the cascade of the New Weir, which has been selected as one of the most beautiful and majestic scenes upon the Wye, as it gains superior advantages from accidental accompaniments. Of this spot, Mr. Whateley, in his *Observations on Modern Gardening*, says, "A

scene at the New Weir, on the Wye, which in itself is truly great and awful, so far from being disturbed, becomes more interesting and important, by the business to which it is destined. It is a chasm between two high ranges of hill that rise almost perpendicularly from the water; the rocks on the sides are mostly heavy masses, and their colour is generally brown; but here and there a pale craggy shape starts up to a vast height above the rest, unconnected, broken, and bare; large trees frequently force out their way among them: and many of them stand far back in the covert, where their natural dusky hue is deepened by the shadow that overhangs them. The river too as it retires, loses itself in woods, which close immediately above, then rise thick and high, and darken the water. In the midst of all this gloom, is an *Iron Forge*, covered with a black cloud of smoke, and surrounded with half-burnt ore, with coal, and with cinders; the fuel for it is brought down a path, worn into steps narrow and steep, and winding among precipices: and near it is an open space of barren moor, about which are scattered the huts of the workmen. It stands close to the cascade of the Weir, where the agitation of the current is increased by large fragments of rocks, which have been swept down by floods, from the banks, or shivered by tempests from the brow; and the sullen sound at stated intervals, of the strokes from the great hammer in the forge, deadens the roar of the water-fall. Just below it, while the rapidity of the stream still continues, a ferry is carried across it; and lower down, the fishermen use little round boats, called truckles (coracles) the remains, perhaps, of the ancient British navigation, which the least motion will upset, and the slightest touch may destroy. All the employments of the people seem to require either exertion or caution; and the ideas of force or of danger which attend them, give to the scene an animation unknown to the solitary,

though perfectly compatible with the wildest romantic situation."

Journey from Upper Sapey to Alterines; through Bromyard and Hereford.

The village of Upper Sapey is situated at the north-east extremity of the county on the borders of Worcestershire; about six miles to the south-west of which is BROMYARD, a small market-town, irregularly built, and badly paved; and nearly half the buildings are of wood, and very small; those of modern construction are however of red brick. The church, which stands on the north-east side of the town, is of Saxon origin, the south door-way having the zig-zag ornaments; above which is a cross, and the figure of St. Peter in relief. This structure has lately undergone a thorough repair, the pillars of the nave having been heightened to support a new roof, the original capitals are however preserved. In the north transept is an altar tomb, to the memory of a knight of the Baskerville family, whose effigy is sculptured on the slab; and at the east end is a tomb in memory of Phineas Jackson, vicar of Bromyard, who died in the year 1681, having made various small bequests for charitable purposes in this town and neighbourhood.

This town, which is 125 miles from London, and contains, according to the late returns, 371 houses, and 2769 inhabitants, is delightfully situated in the midst of the finest orchards, and the river Frome passing within a short distance to the east, and several small streams flowing on the north and west sides.

About four miles to the north of Bromyard is a Roman Camp, situated on the summit of Wall Hill, on the north-east side of which is the extensive manor of Netherwood, which was part of the estate of the Mortimers, of whom Roger Mortimer, Earl of March, was a native of this place. It is now the property of John Pytts, Esq. The mansion is re-

corded to have been a noble structure, and to have been surrounded by a park of nearly 1000 acres. In the former was born the great but unfortunate Robert Devereux, Earl of Essex, Queen Elizabeth's favourite and victim. This nobleman, who was the son of Walter, Earl of Essex, and Viscount Hereford, was educated at Cambridge, and succeeded his guardian the great Lord Burleigh, in the chancellorship of that university. In the year 1585, he accompanied the Earl of Leicester, who had married his mother, to Holland, where he obtained the rank of general, and was greatly distinguished at the battle of Zutphen. On his return to England he was introduced at court, and rose very rapidly in the estimation of the Queen; whose affections he might probably have retained, if his high spirit could have submitted to her caprices. During his short-lived prosperity, he was entrusted with various important commands, in all of which he displayed great abilities and valour; but frank and ingenuous in his nature, he wanted art to discover and to counteract the base dissimulation of his enemies, who, envious of his high fortune, stimulated him to those fatal extremities, to which the warmth of his natural temper too violently hurried him, and which proved his ruin; for "he seemed (says Granger) to think it a prostitution of his dignity to put up with an affront from the Queen herself: and was as honest and open in his enmity, as he was sincere in his friendship." He was beheaded on Tower Hill, in the year 1600, in the 34th year of his age.

At Pencomb, a village situated about three miles to the west of Bromyard, the lord of the manor claims a pair of gilt spurs, as an heriot, from the estate of every mayor of Hereford who dies in his mayoralty.

The roads from Bromyard southerly are very indifferent, the county is however exceedingly beautiful, being variegated with woody eminences, fine orchards, rich meadows, and flourishing corn-fields.

The villages in this part of the county are very inconsiderable, mostly consisting of a few scattered houses, adjacent to a small church.

At the distance of about 14 miles, after passing through the village of Stoke Lacy, and over the river Lugg, we arrive at Hereford, two miles to the south-east of which, on the banks of the Wye, is Rotheras, the seat of Charles Bodenham, Esq. whose ancestors have made it their chief residence, during three centuries. The mansion, which is a spacious and handsome edifice, was built by the grandfather of the present possessor. Near it is a decayed chapel, and extensive offices, which belonged to the ancient manor house. The grounds are pleasant, and the adjacent woods contain some fine timber. On the south-west the prospect is terminated by an eminence called Dynedor Hill, on which are the vestiges of an ancient camp, which is traditionally said to have been occupied by the Roman General Ostorius Scapula. The views from this eminence are extremely fine, and the hill itself is cultivated to the extreme verge of the entrenchment, the bank of which is covered with underwood; the inclosed area is a large corn field, and several cottages are scattered at the sides.

On the left of our road, at the distance of one mile from Hereford, is Belmont, the seat of Colonel Matthews. The house is pleasantly situated on a fine ascent, close to the banks of the Wye, and commands a beautiful prospect; it is an elegant building of Bath stone, erected between the years 1788 and 1790, from the designs of Mr. Wyatt; the interior is fitted up with much taste, and contains some valuable pictures.

At the distance of eight miles from Hereford, on the left of our road, is the village of KILPECK, where was an ancient castle, and cell of Benedictines; the former was the seat of the noble family of Kilpeck, who obtained it by marriage with an heiress of the Waleranes, who resided here in the time of Edward

the First. "The castle of Kilpec (says Leland) now longeth to the Erle of Ormond; sum ruins of the walles yet stand. The priory stood from the castle a quarter of a mile." This priory was subordinate to St. Peter's at Gloucester, to which it had been given by Hugh Fitz-William, an ancestor of Lord Kilpec, "it was suppressed in Thomas Spofford, bishop of Hereford's tyme, and clearly united to Gloucester."

Three miles to the south-west of Kilpeck, in our road, is the village of KENDERCHURCH; about two miles to the south-east of which, on the borders of Monmouthshire, is Kentchurch Park, the seat of J. L. Scudamore, Esq. The house is pleasantly situated in a park, between three or four miles in circumference, and containing some fine timber.

About one mile to the north-west of Kenderchurch, is the village of EWIAS HAROLD, where was formerly an ancient castle, which was founded previously to the Conquest, though Dugdale says that it was built by William Fitz-Osborne, earl of Hereford, after the Conquest. Leland, however, observes, "the fame goeth that Kynge Harold had a basterd namyed Harold, and of this Harold part of Ewis was named *Ewis Harold*—The fame is, that the castell of Map-Herald was builded of Harold afore he was kynge; and when he overcam the *Walsche* men, Harold gave this castle to his bastard." Here was likewise a priory or cell of Black Monks, which (says Leland, "was translatyd from Dulesse (Dewlas) village, a myle and upper on the broke. Dules village longed to Harold. *Filius Haraldi* foundyd this at Dules: Robertus Tregoz translated it from Dules to Mapheralt: it was a cell to Gloucester:" to which place the monks were finally removed in the year 1338, and their possessions united to those of St. Peter's Abbey, their church having been given to this abbey early in the 12th century.

One mile to the north of Ewias Harold, at the village of Dore, was an abbey of white monks, dedicated to the Virgin Mary: it was built by Robert de

Ewias, youngest son to Harold, lord of Ewias; at the time of its suppression it consisted of an abbot and eight religious, and was valued at 10*l.* 5*s.* 2*d.* per annum. Soon after this, the chapter-house, cloisters, and other buildings of the abbey, were pulled down, and the materials sold, together with part of the church; enough, however, of the latter is still left to shew that it was built in the cathedral form, and that its architecture was very elegant. During the reign of Charles I. John Viscount Scudamore obtained a license to rebuild this fabric, and though it was not entirely rebuilt, it underwent considerable repairs; and in the year 1634 was re-consecrated by Theophilus Field, bishop of St. David's.

This church consists of a nave, chancel, and transept, with a well-proportioned and massive tower; the transept was completely new-roofed by Lord Scudamore, whose arms, together with those of England, and of the see of Hereford, are finely carved on the screen which divides the chancel from the nave; the former of which is spacious, and has a magnificent appearance, its length being 84 feet, its breadth 32, and its height 45. The communion table, which rests upon three elegant pillars, is a large slab, 12 feet long, and four broad: the altar-piece displays a singular representation, in wood, of the heart, hands, and feet of our Saviour pierced and bleeding. Above the altar are three beautiful windows of painted glass: in the centre window Jesus is depicted ascending into heaven; above him is Moses, and St. John the Baptist; and beneath the eleven Apostles. In the other windows are full-length figures of the Evangelists, and of St. Peter, St. Andrew, St. James, and of St. John, with appropriate legends. Behind the altar is a kind of chapel, denominated a double cloister, the roof of which is supported by well-proportioned pillars of good workmanship; here, beneath an arch, is a mutilated figure carved in free-stone, which is said to

be the effigies of Robert de Ewias, the founder of this abbey, who is recorded to have been buried here, together with Robert, his son, and several others of his family. The abbey lands are now the property of the duke of Norfolk, who obtained them by his marriage with the heiress of the lords of Scudamore.

The parish of Dore contains about 5000 acres. The buildings are chiefly farm-houses and cottages, built of timber, with mud walls, and lying scattered on the hills and in the valleys; the land being extremely diversified and broken.

At Longtowne, a secluded village, situated about three miles to the west of Dore, near the junction of the upper branches of the Munnow, are some inconsiderable remains of a castle, and to the eastward is an eminence, called Money Farthing Hill; probably from coins having been found here.

Returning to our road, at the distance of about five miles from Kenderchurch, after passing through the villages of Pontrilas and Rowlston, we arrive at Altyrinys, an ancient mansion belonging to, and long the seats of the Cecils, from whom descended the Lord Burghley. The house is situated in a valley near the junction of the Houdy with the Munnow, on the borders of Monmouthshire.

About one mile to the south of Altyrinys, is Trewyn House, the pleasant seat of — Rosier, Esq. near which, on the brow of a precipice of the Black Mountains, are vestiges on an ancient encampment, of an oblong rectangular form, the area of which measures about 160 yards by 80 yards. Beyond the bank, on one side, is another entrenchment, still more extensive, of a semicircular figure, and defended by a double ditch and rampart. The former Mr. Coxe supposes to be of Roman origin, and the latter to have been annexed by the Britons or Saxons. The situation, he remarks, was excellent, “as well for an exploratory camp, as for the defence of the road, which ran near the foot of the eminence.”

The roads in this district, and indeed in all this part of the country, are excessively rugged and bad.

Journey from Kington to Little London; through Hereford and Ledbury.

KINGTON is a small market-town, situated on the Arrow, at the north-western extremity of the county, near the borders of Radnorshire. The town is well built, and has an Iron Foundry, established by Mr. Meredith, which is supplied with Coal and Pig Iron, by the Tram road, from Brecon. The church is a very irregular structure, having a detached tower, surrounded by a spire of a singular form. At the entrance of the town is a free grammar school, erected and endowed by Lady Watkins; here is likewise a charity school. It has a market on Wednesday, and fairs on the Wednesday before Easter; Whit-Monday; August 2; and September 4. Kington is situated 155 miles from London, and contained, according to the late returns, 505 houses, and 2813 inhabitants.

About one mile to the north of Kington, on the summit of Bradnor Mountain, are the remains of a square camp, and at Huntingdon, a village about three miles to the north-west of Kington, are the ruins of a castle, which gave name to the hundred in which it stood. This castle "longed (says Leland) to the Duke of Bokingham."

At the distance of three miles from Kington, we pass through the village of Lionshall. Here are the ruins of castle, of which scarcely any thing now remains but fragments of the outer walls.

On leaving Lionshall, we proceed in a south-easterly direction, and at the distance of four miles arrive at WEONLEY, an ancient market-town, situated 147 miles from London, and consists of 159 houses, and 739 inhabitants. Many of the houses are well-built modern structures, the town having suffered greatly by fire some few years back, and it contains several old wooden houses, worthy the attention of the Antiquary. The church is spacious

and strongly built, and has two or three ancient burial chapels. The celebrated Col. Birch is buried here, and near Weobly is the castellated Mansion of his descendant S. Peploe Esq. On the south side of the town formerly stood an ancient castle, which was taken from the Empress Maud by King Stephen; it is mentioned by Leland as being a goodly and fine building, but somewhat in decay; the site is now converted into a bowling-green. The town is governed by two constables; it returns two members to parliament, who are chosen by the inhabitants of houses of 20*l.* per annum rent and upwards, paying scot and lot, and resident therein 40 days before the election. Here are two good charity schools, the one for boys and the other for girls; its market is on Thursday, and fairs on Holy Thursday, and the third Thursday after.

Three miles beyond Weobley is the village of Wormsley, where a priory of Augustine canons, of the order of St. Victor, was founded by Gilbert Talbot, in the time of King John, and dedicated to St. Leonard de Pionia, and whose revenues at the period of the dissolution were valued at 83*l.* 10*s.* 2*d.* per annum.

About eight miles from Wormsley is the city of Hereford, four miles beyond which, on the right of our road, is Longworth, the seat of R. P. Phillipps, Esq. The mansion, which was built a few years ago, is fitted up with much elegance.

About one mile to the east of the last-mentioned place, on the summit of a commanding eminence, on the right of our road, is St. Ethelbert's Camp, which is traditionally said to be the spot where Ethelbert pitched his tents when on his journey to the court of King Offa.

On the south-west side of the same eminence is Sufton Court, the seat of James Hereford, Esq. who has within these few years erected a handsome mansion of Bath stone, a short distance from the ancient residence, which is yet standing, though somewhat

ruinous ; and together with the old furniture is preserved with care.

Returning to our road, at the distance of about seven miles from Hereford, is the village of Stoke Edith, which derives the latter part of its name from the dedication of the church to St. Editha, daughter of King Egbert. At this place is the principal seat of Edward J. Foley, Esq. The mansion, which is a spacious brick building with wings, stands in a very pleasant park, on a kind of terrace. In the hall are some fine paintings by Sir James Thornhill ; and in the other apartments, which are fitted up with great taste, is a good collection of family portraits. The park and grounds, which have been considerably improved, are well wooded, and display some fine scenery.

At the distance of about eight miles from Stoke Edith, after passing through the village of Tarrington, we arrive at **LEDBURY**, an ancient well built market town, situated on a declivity near the south end of the Malvern Hills, about one mile west from the river Leddon, from which it derives its name. It chiefly consists of two streets, which cross each other at right angles. In the principal street is the old market-house, which is raised on strong oak pillars, and composed of timber and lath plastered and white-washed ; the beams being coloured black. This method of building predominates in the more ancient parts of the town ; and many of the houses have projecting stories : the modern houses are chiefly of red brick.

The Church is a large edifice of Saxon origin, though it has undergone many alterations and improvements at different times. It consists of a nave, side aisles, and chancel, a chapel, and a detached tower ; which is terminated by a finely-proportioned spire, about 60 feet high. The nave has octagon pillars, with pointed arches ; and was divided from the chancel by a very beautiful carved screen, half of which has however been removed. The chancel

appears to have formed part of the original building, having several short massive columns, with semicircular arches. On the north side is a square chapel, having five pointed windows, which have been decorated with painted glass, as well as others in different parts of the church; but the whole is now reduced to confused fragments. This chapel is dedicated to St. Katherine, a female of the name of Katherine Audley, "a religious woman in the reign of Edward II. who had a maid called Mabel, but not being fixed in any settled place, she had a revelation that she should not set up her rest till she came to a town where the bells should ring of themselves. She and her maid coming near Ledbury, heard the bells ring, though the church doors were shut, and no ringers there. Here then she determined to spend the remainder of her days, and built an hermitage, living on herbs, and sometimes on milk. The king, in consideration of her birth or piety, or both, granted her an annuity of 30*l*. Rex præcepit vicecomiti Hereford quod omnes terras et tenementa que fuerunt Petri de Limesey in Monyton et Dilew caperentur in manum regis, et quod de exitibus eorundem solveret annuatim Catisinæ de Audley reclusæ de Ledbury 30 li. (*Gough's Camden.*)

Besides the other appendages of Romish superstition in this county, it was an old custom at funerals to hire poor people who were to take upon them the sins of the party deceased. One of them (he was a long lean ugly lamentable poor rascal) lived in a cottage, on Ross highway. The manner was that, when the corps was brought out of the house and laid on the bier, a loaf of bread was brought out and delivered to the *Sin eater* over the corps, as also a mazar bowle of maple full of beer (which he was to drink up) and sixpence in money in consideration of which he took upon him *ipso facto* all the sins of the defunct, and freed him or her from walking after they were dead. This was practised in some parts of the county long after the reformation, and even

under the presbyterian government in the interregnum.

Among the numerous sepulchral memorials in this church, is an inscription in memory of Anne, wife of Ambroze Elton, Esq. of the Hazel, who died in the year 1660, having had 17 children, three sons and 14 daughters, of whom she lived to see 11 married; and of their issue more than 120 persons.— Here is likewise an inscription recording the interment of James Bailey, of this town, who died in the year 1674, “aged 100 years and eight months. He was younger brother to Humphry Bailey, of Ocul Pycnard, and of Samuel Bailey, late of Hereford. These three brothers lived to the age of 300 years; what one wanted the other made up. *Mors rapit omnia.*” There are also some fine monuments of the Biddulph family in this church.

About the year 1401, this church was made collegiate by Bishop Trevenant, who established here a master or deacon, and eight secular priests, besides clerks and other servants: this college was dissolved in the first of Edward VI.: the deacon's lodgings, which were situated on the north side of the Church, are now converted into a school-house.

Near the Market-house is an Hospital, in honour of St. Catharine; it is a very ancient timber and plaister building, and was founded by Bishop Foliot, in the year 1232, for six single men, two men and their wives, and two widows. At the Dissolution its annual revenues were valued at 32l. 7s. 11d.; it was re-founded by Queen Elizabeth, for a master, seven poor widowers, and three poor women, each to be allowed 6l. 13s. 4d. a year, besides clothes and firing; this allowance has since been augmented to five shillings weekly.

Here is a good Free-school, which was established before the Reformation, and is partly supported by rents issuing from dissolved chantry lands; there is likewise a Charity-school, besides several alms-houses,

and numerous benefactions have been made for the use of the poor.

Ledbury had once the privilege of sending two members to parliament, but afterwards surrendered its rights, on the plea of inability to support them. This town formerly belonged to the see of Hereford, to which it was given by Edwin, a powerful Saxon, who imagined himself cured of the palsy by St. Ethelbert's prayers. Bishop Bohun procured the charter of a market for this town, to be held on Saturdays, which was by a later charter changed to Tuesday.

The town of Ledbury is situated 120 miles from London, and consists, according to the late returns, of 636 houses, and 3476 inhabitants. Ropes, lines, and sacks for meal are made here. Great quantities of cider are also manufactured in the neighbourhood, which constitutes a considerable article of trade: the clothing trade was at one time very flourishing in this town, but it has greatly declined of late years.

On an eminence, two miles to the north of Ledbury, is Hone End, a small but pleasant seat, belonging to E. M. Barrett, Esq.; about one mile to the south-east of which, on the summit of one of the highest ridges of the Malvern Hills, on the borders of Worcestershire, are the immense works, called the Herefordshire Beacon, formerly one of the strongest and most important hill fortresses in this island. "The vast labour (says a modern writer) employed in its construction, its amazing belts of ramparts and trenches, its great extent, its well-chosen situation, which commands what was anciently the only pass through the Malvern hills, and which indeed is very nearly so even to the present hour; its singular irregularity of form and evident dissimilitude to the modes of fortification observed by the Danes, Saxons, and Romans, all combine to establish its origin, which must unquestionably be ascribed to the Britons. The same

reasons also evince, that it was not constructed for mere temporary purposes, but rather for permanent security ; as a place wherein an entire district might seek refuge, with all their possessions, whether of flocks or herds, in case of invasion, or any other sudden emergency.

“ It is almost impossible for words to convey a complete idea of this immense strong hold ; the works are too vast, the heights too unequal, and the base of the eminence too extensive. The general shape of the hill, at least of that portion occupied by the works, approaches to an ellipsis ; and the disposition of the banks and ditches correspond with that figure. The area of the centre, and highest part, is an irregular parallelogram, measuring about sixty yards in its longest diameter, and nearly forty in its shortest : this is surrounded by a high and steep rampart of stones and earth, now covered with turf ; and that again defended by a very deep ditch. Considerably below this, on the acclivity of the hill, ranging towards the south-west, or rather south west by south, is a very extensive outwork, or bastion, of an oval form, containing a sufficient area for the stowage, and even pasturage, of horses and cattle. This is connected by means of a narrow slip of land, running beneath the south-east side of the upper ditch, with a similar kind of bastion, or outwork, ranging eastward and manifestly intended for similar purposes. Both these works are surrounded by a high rampart and deep ditch ; and the inclosed areas have evidently been levelled by art as far as the natural shape of the eminence would admit. Still lower on the acclivity, are successive ranges of ramparts and ditches, very steep, deep, and high, encircling the sides of the mountain, and rendering it nearly, if not utterly, inaccessible.

“ The views from the summit of this majestic work include a vast extent of country, and Herefordshire, from this height, assumes a very distinct character to that of the contiguous districts of Worcester and

Gloucester. It appears to be composed of an immense continuation of oblong, conical, and irregular hills, principally covered with fine timber; the deep shadows of whose luxuriant foliage project over the most beautiful vales, abounding with orchards, corn-fields, and hop-grounds. The distance in the west is finely marked by the range of the Black Mountains, and the hills of Radnorshire. The prospects to the east and south-east are yet more extensive, including a very large proportion of Gloucestershire and Worcestershire, which appear spread out before the sight, variegated by all the charms of nature and cultivation. The Herefordshire Beacon itself is most eminently conspicuous for many miles round, and forms an object of uncommon grandeur."

About two miles to the south-east of Ledbury, is the pleasant village of EASTNOR, in the church of which are several handsome monuments of statuary marble, to the memory of several individuals of the Cocks family; and a little to the south-east of the village is Castnor Castle, lately erected by Earl Somers. It is a noble building, upon the plan of the baronial castles of former days, is in a fine commanding situation, and has an imposing appearance, from whatever points it may be viewed.

In a glen of the Malvern Hills, about two miles east from the last-mentioned place, stood Bransill Castle, which was originally of a square form, having a round tower at each angle, and a double moat surrounding it. This castle is now wholly demolished; but from its site it appears to have been a place of great strength.

At the distance of about two miles to the south of Ledbury, on the right of our road, is an ancient camp, called the Vineyard Camp, the works of which are almost entirely effaced by the plough; one mile beyond Vineyard Camp is the small village of Little London.

About five miles to the west of which, a marvel-

lous occurrence is said to have taken place in the time of Queen Elizabeth, when, according to Camden, Marcley Hill, in the year 1575, rose as it were from sleep, and for three days moved on its vast body with a horrible noise, driving every thing before it to a higher ground, to the great astonishment of the beholders, by that kind of earthquake, I suppose, which naturalists call *Brasmatia*. Sir Richard Baker, in his *Chronicle of England*, has given the following particulars of this event.—“In the 13th year of Queen Elizabeth, a prodigious earthquake happened in the east parts of Herefordshire, at a little town called Kinnaston. On the 17th of February, at six o'clock in the evening, the earth began to open, and a hill, with a rock under it, making at first a great bellowing noise, which was heard a great way off, lifted itself up, and began to travel, bearing along with it the trees that grew upon it, the sheep folds and flocks of sheep, abiding there at the same time. In the place from whence it was first moved, it left a gaping distance, forty foot broad, and fourscore ells long: the whole field was about twenty acres. Passing along, it overthrew a chapel standing in the way, removed a yew-tree planted in the church-yard, from the west to the east; with the like force it thrust before it highways, sheep-folds, hedges and trees; made tilled ground pasture, and again turned pasture into tillage. Having walked in this sort from Saturday evening till Monday noon, it then stood still.” The chapel bell was dug up a few years ago, and the yew-tree is still existing. This supposed phenomenon, according to the present appearance, seems to have been nothing more than a land-slip, and its motion certainly agreeable to the common laws of gravitation.

At the distance of about four miles to the west of Marcley Hill is Holm Lacey, a venerable seat, lately belonging to the Duke of Norfolk; who obtained it in marriage with Frances, daughter and heiress of C. F. Scudamore, esq. together with various other

valuable estates in this county and in Gloucestershire, and it now belongs, with the extensive estate, to the legal heir of the late Duchess. The mansion, which was built about a century ago, remains unaltered, as a perfect specimen of the style of building of our immediate ancestors. The apartments were decorated with many valuable paintings, by Vandyck, Jansen, Holbein, and other artists of eminent merit, and the park and grounds are very pleasant. The old garden, on the south front, was formed on the model of Hampton Court, in Middlesex, and with a very spacious terrace.

*Journey from Hereford to Kington; through
Stretton.*

On leaving Hereford we proceed in a north-westerly direction, and at the distance of about three miles pass through the village of Stretton, containing 27 houses and 138 inhabitants; one mile and a half beyond which is Credenhill, “of steep ascent, crowned at the top with a vast camp, which takes in its whole apex 40 acres, with works, fortified with an inner as well as outer ditch. It seems to have been British, and strengthened in succeeding ages; or it may have been the defence of Kenchester, and included under one common ancient name with it. It is of too irregular form to be Roman. Here Dr. Salmon places *MAGNIS, Magna Castra*; for such, says he, 30 acres defended, deserves to be called. He takes it to have been first possessed by the Romans, and the innermost ditch, without a vallum; added by the Britons, Saxons, or Danes. He esteems this the exploratory camp, and Kenchester the city.”

About one mile and a half to the south of Credenhill, on the left of our road, is KENCHESTER, supposed by some writers to have been the ancient city of Ariconium, of greater magnitude than Hereford, and where King Offa had a splendid palace. It is said to have been destroyed by an earthquake.

“Kenchester (says Leland) standith a thre mile or more above Hereford, upwards, on the same side

of the river that Hereford doth, yet it is almost a mile from the ripe of Wye. 'This towne is far more auncient than Hereford, and was celebrated yn the Romans time as apperith by many thinges, and especially by antique money of the Cæsars very often found within the town, and in ploughing about, the which the people there called *Duarfe's-money*. The cumpase of Kenchesteſter hath been by estimation as much as Hereford, excepting the castle, the which at Hereford is very spacious. Pieces of the walls and turrets yet appear, *prope fundamenta*, and more should have appeared if the people of Hereford towne and other thereabout, had not in tyme past pulled down much, and picked out of the best for their buildings. Of late one M. Brainton building a place at Stretton, a mile from Kenchesteſter, did fetch much tayled [hewn] stone there toward his buildings.—They told me there that one M. Lingham is owner both of Kenchesteſter and Sutton. By likelihood men of old time went from Kenchesteſter to Hay, and so to Breknok and Cairmardin. The place wher the town was is all overgrown with brambles, hazels, and like shrubs. Nevertheless here and there yet appear ruins of buildings, of the which the foolish people caull on [one] the king of Feyres Chayre. There hath been found *nostra memoria luterus Britannici et ex eisdem canales, aqua ductus, tessellata pavimenta, fragmentum catenula aurea, calculus ex argento*, byside other strawnge things. At Kenchesteſter was a palays of Offa, as sum say: the ruines yet remain, and vaults also. Here hath been and is found a *fossoribus et aratoribus*, Romaine money, tessellata pavimenta, a lytle crosse of gold to were about one's neck, and ther they call them *Dwery* or *Dwerfich* halfpens or money."

The form of the station is an irregular hexagon; the south-west and south sides being the boldest; the present road, under the former, appearing to have been a ditch. The walls may be traced all round the city, though overgrown with hedges and

timber-trees. The ground of the city is higher than the circumjacent country. Nothing remains of its former splendour, except towards the east end, a piece of ruin, which was probably part of a temple, with a niche which is five feet high, and three broad within, built of Roman Brick, rough stones, and indissoluble mortar, and called the Chair: round it are several foundations and holes, as of vaults, and near it are some very large foundations. In the year 1669, a large vault, with a tessellated pavement, and stone floor, was discovered; and some years since a very fine Mosaic floor was found entire; and, about twenty years ago, an aqueduct or drain, of considerable extent, with the bottom entire, was opened here. Great numbers of Roman coins, bricks, leaden pipes, urns, and large bones, have also been formerly dug up, and are still found where the land is ploughed.

At the distance of two miles beyond Eredenhill, we pass through the village of Mansel Lacey, about one mile beyond which, on the right of our road, is **FOXLEY**, the seat of Uvedale Price, Esq. the celebrated author of 'Essays on the Picturesque' The house is a square plain structure of bricks, situated on the declivity of an eminence, and commanding some beautiful views over the vale of Hereford; the distance being formed by various hills retiring in perspective, and the foreground by rich masses of wood. The interior of the house is elegantly fitted up, and decorated with a good collection of paintings by the first masters.

About two miles to the north-west of Foxley, in our road, is the village of Norton, to the north of which is the celebrated eminence, called Lady Lift, from the summit of which the most beautiful prospects burst upon the view with uncommon grandeur and sublimity.

Proceeding north-westerly, at the distance of three miles from Norton, on the right of our road, is the village of **SARNSFIELD**, in the church-yard of which is a tomb-stone to the memory of John Abel, the

celebrated architect who built the market-houses of Hereford, Leominster, Kingston, and Brecknock. He died in the year 1694, in the 97th year of his age. This stone, which was designed and sculptured by himself, displays his own effigies kneeling with those of his two wives, together with the emblems of his profession, the rule, the compass, and the square. On the stone is the following singular epitaph, which was also written by himself :

“ This craggy stone a covering is for an architect’s bed,
That lofty buildings raised high, yet now lies low his
head ;

His line and rule, so death concludes, are locked up
in store ;

Build they who list, or they who wist, for he can
build no more.

His house of clay could hold no longer ;
May heaven’s joy build him a stronger.

JOHN ABEL.

Vive ut vivas in vitam æternam.”

At the distance of about 10 miles beyond Norton, after passing through the villages of Wonton, Lions-hall, and Pentress, we arrive at Kingston, about four miles to the south of which is Newport-house and Park, the seat of the Hon. Andrew Foley.

*Journey from Hardwick to Hereford, by Hanmer’s
Cross,*

HARDWICK is a small village, situated on the western extremity of the county, near the Golden Vale, which extends itself along the river Dore, and derives its name from its pleasant fertility in the spring, when it is covered over with a yellow livery of flowers. It is encompassed with hills, which are crowned with woods.

Among the hills, to the south of the Golden Vale, formerly stood CRASWELL PRIORY, a small house, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and subordinate to the order of Grandmount, in Normandy. It contained a priory and ten monks, who were established here about the end of the reign of King John. At

the Suppression its revenues amounted to 40s. per annum, which were granted by Edward IV. to God's House, now Christ's College, Cambridge.

About four miles to the north-east of Craswell Priory is the site of the demolished castle of SNODHILL, which in Leland's time was "somewhat in ruin." It is mentioned in a record of the time of Henry III. as belonging in the 30th of Edward I. to "Robert, Lord Chandos, who was fourth in descent from one of both his names, who came in with the Conqueror. Richard Neville, Earl of Warwick, in the time of Henry VI. held it in right of his wife Anne, who after his death at Barnet Field, settled it on King Henry VII. Queen Elizabeth granted it to Sir Robart Dudley, Knt. of the Garter."—*Gough's Camden*.

Returning from this digression, at the distance of five miles from Hardwick, we pass through the village of BREDWARDINE, where was formerly a castle, but which has long since been destroyed; from the imperfect traces, however, that remain, it appears to have been a strong and massive fortress. This castle gave birth and name to Thomas Bradwardin, archbishop of Canterbury, who for his various and abstruse learning was called in that age the Profound Doctor.

About one mile to the south-east of Bredwardine is Moccas Court, the seat of Col. Sir George Cornwall, Bart. The present mansion is delightfully situated, occupying an easy ascent on the southern bank of the Wye. The Park which ranges to the south-west, is finely wooded, and includes a considerable portion of the neighbouring hill.

On the summit of an eminence, about half a mile to the north-west of Moccas Park, is a large and peculiar kind of cromlech, called King Arthur's tablet, the principal stone of which is incumbent, and broken nearly in the middle; it measures 18 feet in length, and from seven to ten feet broad, its thickness being about two feet. The number of upright

stones that originally supported this slab appears to have been eleven; but several of them are now fallen. Other smaller stones are scattered near the cromlech; and on one side is a small mound or embankment of earth and stones.

At the village of Dorston, situated a short distance to the west of Moccas Park, was formerly an ancient castle, which is now entirely demolished, the origin of which does not appear to be recorded.

At the distance of about four miles from Bredwardine, on our road, are the vestiges of an ancient tract, called the Portway, pointing towards Kenchester, and about one mile beyond the Portway, on the left of our road, is Garnons, the seat of J.G. Cotterell, Esq. the house, which is pleasantly situated on the south-western acclivity of Bishopstone Hill, commands various extensive and rich prospects.

About one mile beyond Garnons, we pass through the village of Bridge-Sollars, three miles to the south of which is MADLEY, formerly the site of a castle, of which there are no remains. There is a small cross, consisting of a square pedestal and shaft, near the centre of the village, and in the church-yard are the remains of another cross. The church is a fine old building, of considerable extent.

Returning to our road, at the distance of two miles from Bridge Sollars, is Sugwas, Pool, where was formerly a palace and chapel belonging to the bishops of Hereford, and the principal residence of Bishop Cantilupe. The palace has been long converted into a farm-house; and the chapel was taken down in the year 1792, and a handsome house erected on the spot. "In a pool in this parish, by the road side, abounding with fine trout, it is pretended Thomas Becket often appears, whence the niche at Kenchester is called *Becket's Chair*."

About half a mile to the south of Sugwas, on the banks of the Wye, is Eaton camp, a large ancient entrenchment, with a single ditch and rampart, in good preservation; the area contains between 30 and 40 acres, and is now cultivated. Four miles beyond

Sugwas Pool, after passing White Cross, we arrive at Hereford.

Journey from Layster's Hill to Clifford, through Leominster.

LAYSTER'S HILL is situated at the north-eastern extremity of this county, on the borders of Worcestershire, two miles to the south-west of which is the village of KIMBOLTON, six miles beyond which, after passing through the town of Leominster, we arrive at the village of MONKLAND, which with its church, in the time of William Rufus, was given to the Benedictine monks of the abbey of St. Peter at Castellione, or Canches, in Normandy, to which it became a cell. It was afterwards given to the Carthusians at Coventry. At the distance of about 15 miles from Monkland, after passing through the villages of Great Delwyn, Sarnsfield, Kinnersley, Willersley, Winforton, and Whitney, we arrive at CLIFFORD, a considerable village. At this place are the remains of a castle, which for nearly two centuries was the baronial residence of the Lords de Clifford, and also of fair Rosamond the favourite of Henry II. The ruins, which stand on a bold eminence, rising from the banks of the Wye, consist chiefly of massive fragments of walls, overhanging the steep, near the river side. It is said that the celebrated Rosamond de Clifford, the fair but unfortunate mistress of Henry II. was born in this castle.

At this village Simon Fitz-Richard Fitz-Ponce, in the reign of Henry I. founded a priory of Cluniac monks, subordinate to a monastery at Lewes, a borough town of Sussex. It was dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and continued to the general dissolution, when it was valued at 57*l.* 7*s.* 4*d.* per annum.

Journey from Little Hereford to Byton Lane; through Orleton.

The village of LITTLE HEREFORD is situated on the banks of the Teme, on the borders of Shropshire, two miles to the south-west of which is the village of

BRIMFIELD, containing 118 houses, and 532 inhabitants. At this place there was a college of secular canons, in the reign of Henry I. ; but in the year 1155 they turned Benedictine monks, and resigned their lands to the abbey at Gloucester.

Two miles beyond Brimfield, we pass through the village of ORLETON, containing 110 houses, and 574 inhabitants.

At the distance of about three miles from the last-mentioned place, and one to the right of our road, formerly stood Croft Castle, the ancient seat of the Crofts, a Saxon family of distinction, who resided here as early as the time of Edward the Confessor, and whose descendants continued to make it a place of residence till nearly the conclusion of the last century, when the family became extinct. The estate is now the property of the Rev. Mr. Hevil, who has another seat at Wigmore, called Wigmore Hall, about two miles to the north-west. The ancient castle, which stood in an extensive park, has been long since demolished ; at the north-western extremity of the park is the site of a British camp, called Croft Ambrey, the prospect from which is very extensive.

About two miles to the south-west of Croft Park, in our road, is the small village of MORTIMER'S CROSS, pleasantly situated in a beautiful valley, watered by the river Lug. Near this place in the year 1461, was fought the famous battle between the two houses of York and Lancaster, the issue of which proved in favour of the Earl of March, afterwards Edward IV. who commanded in person. A little to the south of the village, at an angle of the two roads, a neat Tuscan pedestal of white stone, with an inscription descriptive of this battle, was erected by subscription in the year 1799.

A most singular phenomenon is said to have occurred at the time this battle was fought, of which the following description is given by Speed. "On the verge of this shire, but between Ludlow and

Little Hereford, a great battail was fought by Jasper Earle of Pembroke, and James Butler, Earle of Ormond and Wiltshire, against the Earle of Marche; in which three thousand and eight hundred men were slaine; the two earles fled: but Owen Teuther was taken and beheaded. 'This field was fought upon the daye of the Virgin Mary's Purification, in Anno 1461; wherein before the battail was strok, appeared visably in the firmament *three Sunnes*, which after a while joined all together, and became as before, for which cause, as some have thought, Edward afterwards gave the sun in his full brightness for his badge and cognizance." Other historians have likewise mentioned this appearance; and Drayton in his miseries of Queen Margarite, attributes the victory obtained by the Earl of March to this phenomenon.

At KINGSLAND, a pleasant village about a mile to the south-east of Mortimer's Cross, was a castle belonging to King Merwald, of which the ditches and keep were visible in Leland's time.

About two miles beyond Mortimer's Cross, on the left of our road, is SHOBDEN COURT, the seat of William Hanbury, Esq. The house stands in a park between three and four miles in extent, and commands some rich and picturesque scenery. About half a mile beyond Shobden, and two and a half from Mortimer's Cross, is Byton Lane.

Journey from Aston to Stepleton Castle; through Lenthall.

ASTON is a small village situated at the north-eastern extremity of the county, about two miles to the north of which is Downton, the seat of Thomas Andrew Knight, Esq. The exterior of this house, from its towers and embattled walls, assumes the appearance of a castle, by which name it is generally called, though it was certainly not designed to imitate a Gothic fortress, but rather the military architecture of the Greeks and Romans. It is situated on an ele-

vated bank, commanding a lawn bounded by the river Teme, and surrounded by an extensive amphitheatre of wood. The house is built with stone, and though consisting of several parts of dissimilar characters, each part is uniform in itself; and the whole from its general union with the contiguous scenery, appears to great advantage. The interior is fitted up with great taste and elegance; and some of the apartments are decorated with a few select paintings by the most eminent masters.

About one mile and a half to the west of Downton, is the village of Lientwardine, containing 1277 inhabitants. In the church of this village are some handsome painted glass windows. Here is a well endowed Free School, founded by Sir Edward Harley, and others.

At the distance of about two miles to the south of Leintwardine, and four from Aston, is the village of WIGMORE, where a college of prebendaries was founded by Ralph de Mortimer, according to whose will a religious house was founded at Shobden by his son Hugh, but for want of water was removed, first to Eye, on the Lugg, afterwards to Wigmore, then to Beodune, and back to Shobden; but in the year 1179 the monks finally settled in a noble monastery about one mile to the north of Wigmore, which was built, endowed, and erected, into an abbey of the order of St. Augustine, at the expense of Hugh de Mortimer; eight of whose descendants were buried in the abbey-church, and among them five Earls of March, all of whose monuments were destroyed at the Dissolution, together with the building itself to the bare walls. The annual revenues of this abbey at the Dissolution were estimated according to Speed at 302*l.* 12*s.* 3*¼d.* In the ruins of the abbey-church were found, about 40 years ago, "a stone coffin and little urn with ashes, with some silver coin in the leaden coffin, which contained a body perfect, but which mouldered on opening.—At the farm below, called the Abbey Grange, remained in Mr. Blount's time some

ancient rooms, as the abbot's council-chamber, a large room with a fair canopy of wainscot, under which the abbot sat, now two rooms for paupers; a wreathen chain of one of the chimneys had the arms of one of the Mortimers. The buildings are since much altered. Among the out-buildings contiguous to the high road from Lentwardine to Wigmore, is an ale-house, which they say was the abbey prison, now a farm."

A little to the west of the village, on an eminence, are the ruins of Wigmore Castle, which is now almost enveloped by a mantle of rich ivy. The outward wall is the most perfect, though a considerable part even of this is destroyed. The ruins of the keep are situated on a high artificial hill, within the area, and chiefly consist of massive fragments overlooking the country to the north and east, with much grandeur. The time of the original foundation is unknown; it was, however, certainly previous to the reign of Edward the Elder, who is recorded to have repaired Wigmore. It was taken from Edric, Earl of Shrewsbury, by Ranulph Mortimer, who came over with the Conqueror, and made it his principal seat. "It is impossible (says Mr. Gough) to contemplate the massive ruins of Wigmore Castle, situate on a hill in an amphitheatre of mountains, whence its owner could survey his vast estates from his square palace with four corner towers on a keep, at the south-east corner of his double-trenched outworks, without reflecting on the instability of the grandeur of a family, whose ambition and intrigues made more than one English monarch uneasy on his throne, yet not a memorial remains of their sepulture."

At the distance of four miles beyond Wigmore is the small village of LYNGEN, near the church of which, on a mount, was formerly a castle, belonging to Sir Henry Lingain, who during the civil wars, in the time of Charles I. in whose service great part of his fortune was expended, besieged the castle.

of Brampton Brian, and burnt the town, in consequence of which his estate was sequestered to make good the damages; but after an inventory had been taken of his effects, Sir Robert Harley, to whose use the proceeds were ordered to be applied, waited on his widow, and having asked her if it was complete, and she had signed it, presented it to her with all his right thereto. Sir Henry had issue by this lady (who was a daughter of Sir Walter Pye), nineteen children, of whom seven daughters survived, among whom the remains of his estates were afterwards divided.

At Limbrook, a small village, a little to the south of Lyngen, there was formerly a cell, belonging to Aveney, in Normandy; and at a little distance, near the left bank of the Lugg, was a priory of nuns of the order of St. Augustine, founded by some of the Mortimer family, about the reign of Richard I. and which continued till the general suppression, when it had six nuns, and was valued at 22*l.* 17*s.* 8*d.* per annum.

About three miles to the north of Lyngen, is the village of BRAMPTON BRIAN, in the church of which is an altar tomb, green with moss, on which lies the effigy of a lady unknown, greatly mutilated; and above this is a large marble tablet, in memory of Robert Harley, first Earl of Oxford. On the west from the church is a large and respectable brick mansion, belonging to the Harleys, and still farther to the west is a park, nearly six miles in circumference. Great part of the walls of the ancient castle is still standing, and the gate-house, flanked by two round towers, occupies a low situation, a little to the north of the church. A curious chimney, rising like a turret above the curtain, and a staircase, are tolerably perfect. This castle, which had been erected here at an early period, was the chief seat of the Harleys, till the Civil Wars in the reign of Charles I. when it was twice besieged by the forces

in the service of the king, and at length burnt and otherwise dilapidated.

Nearly two miles to the north-east of Brampton Brian, is a perfect Roman camp, called Brandon, supposed to have been the Bravineum of the Romans, and to have been occupied by Ostorius Scapula, previous to his decisive victory over Caractacus. It is of a square form, with a single ditch, near which are two barrows, where, in the year 1662, an urn was found, with ashes and bones in it; and about two miles to the west, on the other side of a small stream, is Coxall-Knoll camp, now covered with large oaks, which have been already noticed in the former part of this volume.

Returning to our road, at the distance of about three miles from Lyngen, we arrive at Stepleton, another ancient border castle, situated on the verge of Radnorshire, and formerly belonging to the Earls of Mortimer, but now the property of the Earl of Oxford.

THE SCENERY ON THE WYE.

The rise and course of this celebrated stream has already been traced out in our general description of the rivers and canals of this county; but the scenery on its banks, collected from the various tourists, may be a pleasing addition to that of the county at large.

“Even in its earliest stage, upon the brow of Plinlimmon, this river is marked with features of the grand and sublime. ‘The country for several miles is naked and dreary, one continued undulation of hills forming the distance, the river ‘making sweet music with the enamelled stones.’ At the distance of six miles from its source, at a village called *Cwmergar*, the Wye receives a considerable swell from the river Castal. Here is a wooden bridge called Pont-rhyd-garreg. Hence upon an easy ascent, a tolerable road leads to the wretched village of Llangerrig. The beauties of this situation can only be communicated by the pencil, the power of

language is inadequate. Three miles below Llangerrig, in a south direction, the river Darnel empties itself into the Wye. Pursuing the course of the river, the Nanerth rocks, in an extent of nearly three miles, form a beautiful screen to its north bank. At this spot the Wye takes an easy bend, and the ascending road, girts the immense hills enriched with spreading oaks and underwood. Beneath, the gentle river Marteg loses its current in the broader channel of the Wye. Distant three miles is Rhaiadyr Gwy. Three miles further the Wye receives a considerable supply of water from the rivers Elan and Clarwen, which unite at the distance of four miles from their conflux with our river. Below this a copious stream, called the Ither, (which in its course receives the Dulas and Cammaron) makes a considerable addition to the Wye. From the brow of a hill about two miles before we reach the town of Builth, the scenery is peculiarly beautiful, the river spreading itself into a bay, exhibiting many naked rocks in its bed and agreeable breaks. The river Irfor falls into the Wye about half a mile above the town, receiving at a short distance from its junction, the brook called the Wheffrey, which rises upon the Breconshire hills. Within one mile of the town of Builth, the small river Dehonog empties itself into the Wye. From the ferry a little below, a beautiful reach of the river terminates in a view of the small remains of Aberdwy Castle, of which no history has been traced. Its remains consist of little more than a stone wall, at the extremity of which are the fragments of two round towers. These rude specimens of art are finely contrasted by the adjoining wonderful productions of nature. There is an immense range of rocks running parallel with the river, exhibiting the most strange and fantastic forms. It presents to the mind the idea of towers and castles rising out of luxuriant copses, and under a declining sun a scene is presented worthy a Salvador. or of his rival John Mortimer. Near this charming

spot, the river Edow falls into our river. In passing on a similar kind of rocky scenery occurs Llangoed, the seat of — Edwards, esq. Hence pass through a wood, the breaks of which allow glimpses of the river, till the village Swains is arrived at, distant one mile, where it takes the form of an extensive bay. At Glasbury the scene may be contrasted with those at Abredwy and Buillt; all around wearing a placid air; the river also flowing in a tranquil stream. In the midst of this rich and beautiful valley, an elegant stone bridge of seven arches was thrown across the river, about the year 1783, by the family of Edwards, under the direction of their father, the architect of Pont y-Pridd. In the winter, however, of 1794, the bridge was totally destroyed by a torrent of ice which poured down after the long frost in the beginning of 1795. Approaching Hay, pass its small church, situated upon a high bank of the river. The purple hue of the Black Mountains, generally affords a good back-ground to the scenery around the bridges. These mountains extend 14 or 15 miles towards a place called Monmouth Cap, about eight miles from Abergavenny. On quitting Hay, the Wye receives a considerable body of water from the river Dulas, across which is a stone bridge of one arch. Thus assisted, our river becomes navigable in the winter season. Hence amid a profusion of rich and beautiful scenery, the river quits Radnorshire, at a place called Rhydspence. The winding and mazy course of the Wye, in about two miles brings us to Whitney. Then passing several beautiful villages reach Willersley, in the vicinity of which the extensive range of Merbidge hills affords from their summits, grand and extensive views of the surrounding country. Brobury's Scar, also in this neighbourhood, is another grand object: its principal attractions are the bold and majestic roughness of its form, which contrast beautifully with the views upon the banks of the Wye. Our river glides in an easy course towards Bredwar-

dine. This village stands upon an easy ascent, on the bank of the Wye, and appears in a happy point of view above the bridge; the north side of the river rises considerably, and is richly clothed with shrubbery. This place gave birth and name to the celebrated Thomas Bradwardine, archbishop of Canterbury, who from his deep erudition was called doctor profundus. Passing with the stream along a rich and fertile country, reach Moccas Court, pleasantly situated on the south bank. The ancient name of this place is Moches, which was the property of St. Guthlach, in the city of Hereford. The ancient house stood below the site of the present, which is a modern structure, partly built from the ruin of Bredwardine castle. In descending towards HEREFORD pass a variety of elegant villas, rich in situation, and happily selected: among these, Belmont is peculiarly worthy of attention. Quitting Hereford, the Wye bends its course round a point of land for two miles, when we are again brought almost as near to the town as when we quitted it. In passing further down, the river continues to take circuitous windings, but assumes an even surface. At six miles from Hereford the Wye receives the Lug, which is one of the three principal rivers in this county: it originates on the north-east side of Radnorshire, and running east through Herefordshire to Leominster, takes a south-east direction. About a quarter of a mile distant from the Wye this river runs through the pleasing village of Mordiford, adding much to the picturesque scenery of the place. Upon the east end of the church is represented in plaster, an enormous dragon or serpent. The country people say that some centuries ago a terrible dragon was slain near this place. Nor should we be surprised at the wonderful relations they give respecting it, for even the profound Camden thus writes. "Near the conflux of the Lug and the Wye, east, a hill which they call Marclay hill, did in the year 1575, rouse itself as it were out of sleep, and for three days

together, shoving its prodigious body forward with a horrible roaring noise, and overturning every thing in its way, raised itself (to the great astonishment of the beholders) to a higher place." Upon a hill adjoining the village, a large stone house has been erected by Mr. Hereford, which commands a most extensive view of the surrounding country. About one mile below Mordiford pass a large mansion belonging to the Duke of Norfolk, called Holm-Lacy, formerly the seat of the ancient family of the Scudamores. On this site stood an abbey for premonstratensian canons, founded by Wm. Fitzwain, in the beginning of the reign of Henry the Third. This building commands a beautiful prospect on the opposite side of the river, called Fownhope. A little below the next bend of this river, a range of hills called Capler hills, forms a rich screen to the north bank of the Wye. Near Brookhampton, upon Capler hill, is the remains of a very large square camp, called Woldbury, doubly trenched. Its dimensions are inconsiderable in width, but is near half a mile long. In 1792, three acres of these hills fell into the Wye, and altered its course. On the left at Aramstone, is a fine view of the village of King's Caple, situated amid a beautiful assemblage of woods. Below, upon the opposite bank, is Harewood, the residence of the Hoskinses. This place forms part of the forest of Harewood, in which Ethelwold, king Edgar's minister, had a castle. It was here that Mason fixed the place for his drama of Elfrida, and thus describes the scene before us.

"How nobly does this venerable wood,
Gilt with the glories of the orient sun,
Embosom yon fair mansion ! the soft air
Salutes me with most cool and temp'rate breath;
And as I tread, the flower besprinkled lawn
Sends up a gale of fragrance. I should guess,
If e'er content deign'd visit mortal clime,
This was her place of dearest residence."

Hence, amid a rich and woody country, reach the

pleasant village of Selleck; its church is of singular construction. On the opposite side of the river, below Harewood, is a fine grove of trees called Caple Tump, where an annual festival was wont to be held from all the neighbouring places. About four miles below Selleck occurs a most beautiful and luxuriant view of Ross. On the approach, a fine amphitheatre of trees called Ashwood, skirts the banks of the Wye. The hill to the right of the town is called the Chase, and that on the left Penyard Wood, upon which formerly stood a castle, said to have been destroyed in the civil wars. About one mile below Ross, Wilton Castle first attracts attention, situated upon the margin of the Wye. An assemblage of rich and wooded scenery, forms the leading feature. The key-stones of Wilton Bridge lock curiously one into the other. Near this place a dealer in corn has erected a pleasing residence, which he has skirted with willows. At about two miles below the bridge the admirer of the grand in landscape will be highly gratified after ascending the hill in the high road to Monmouth, whence, at a place called Pencraig, is a very magnificent view. The distant church of Ross, its neighbouring woods and hills, the meandering stream of the Wye, all combine to form the fascinating scene. Amid a variety of enchanting views, which the distance from one bend of the river to another produces, Goodrich Castle, upon the summit of a bold promontory, clothed with wood, presents its aspiring battlements. About one mile below the castle is the remains of Goodrich Priory. From the ascent, approaching the village of Goodrich, a rich and extensive view presents itself across the Forest of Dean, whence Rur-dean church happily breaks upon the eye. Here the Wye in a long and serpentine reach, appears in perspective, affording a pleasing termination to the scenery: its banks are screened on the south by an extensive coppice wood, and on the north by fertile meadows, rising towards Bishop's Wood, from which a considerable iron fur-

nace in this vicinity derives its name. From Lidbrook large quantities of coal are sent to Ross and Hereford. The stone quarries in this neighbourhood supplied materials for building the bridge at Bristol. Passing down the river, the next object which attracts notice is Courtfield, the seat of the Vaughans. The picturesque village of Welsh Bicknor, presents itself in a rich valley on the right bank of the Wye, happily overshadowed by a thicket of woods, ranged in a grand and circular sweep. These are called Hawkwood and Packwood, extending about one mile along the bank of the river. The village church and parsonage-house, group in a form peculiarly beautiful and interesting. In the body of the church, fronting the reading-desk, is a cumbent whole-length female figure well sculptured in a darkish coloured stone. Tradition says it represents the countess of Salisbury, who nursed Henry V. in this neighbourhood. A little below, the Wye is bounded on the opposite shore by a long range of hills clothed with verdure and diversified by a rich and broken soil, of a warm and reddish hue. Approaching the foot of Caldwell rocks, a scene sublime and majestic is presented. The grand prominences are overhung with richly varied tufts of oaks and shrubs, occasionally contrasted and relieved by deep and shadowy dells, formed by the various limekilns on their surface.

Close to the river, beneath the shade of a dark wood near Coldwell, appears a Monumental Stone, to a young man who perished in the river. The inscription informs the passenger that his name was John Whitehead Warre, who was unfortunately drowned near the spot while bathing, even in the sight of his parents, brother, and sisters, on Sept. the 14th, 1804, in the 16th year of his age. It expresses that his parents became resigned to the will of God, under the reflection that he possessed the virtues of truth, innocence, filial piety, and fraternal affection. The monument is professedly erected as a beacon to

warn the unwary, and it contains ideas of deep regret that the means used by the humane society were not known when the accident happened, but that for the benefit of others an apparatus with directions are now lodged in the church of Coldwell. The deceased was born at Oporto, Feb. 14, 1789, son of James Warre, of London and of Somersetshire, merchant. The epitaph is long and badly written. Here Mr. Ireland quitted the barge to ascend these majestic rocks. The task, though arduous, should not, he says, deter the traveller from pursuing this course, as he will avoid a dull and uninteresting passage upon the water of three miles. From the summit, Goodrich Castle breaks suddenly on the eye. The New Wear and adjoining waterfall, with the surrounding heathy hills, afford a rich combination of objects.

The village of Whitechurch in the centre of the vale beneath, with the vast hills beyond, give a termination to the reach of the river. At Whitechurch is a second ferry called Hutson's rope, which, though seven miles distant from that at Goodrich, by water, is only one mile by land. At the bottom of Symond's gate the company usually disembark, mount the summit, and descending on the other side, join the boat at the New Wear. From the top of Symond's Gate, which is not less than 2000 feet in height above the surface of the water, the spectator enjoys a singular view of the numerous mazes of the Wye, and looks down on the river, watering each side of the narrow and precipitous peninsula upon which it stands. Descending to the New Wear by the same kind of rugged course as that by which the Coldwell rocks are attained, the fatigue is amply repaid from an abundance of beautiful views, which appear through the breaks in the rocks or openings of the woods. Mr. Cox did not clamber to this summit, preferring the navigation, because he was unwilling to lose the beauties of the ever-shifting scenery, and a succession of home scenes upon the

banks beneath, to the most boundless expanse of prospect from above. A little below the weir the river scenery is terminated by what is called king Arthur's plain, or Doward-hills. To the emboldened traveller the summits of these hills afford ample variety of the beautiful and sublime.

At a spot adjoining to the wood upon the extremity of this hill is a cavern bearing the name King Arthur's Hall. Many fabulous and wonderful tales have been attached to this hall; the truth is neither more nor less than this, that it was once a rich mine of ore, which supplied the contiguous furnaces. A detached cluster of rocks, called St. Martin's, or the Three Sisters, skirt the river in passing down, near which, at a short reach, called St. Martin's Well, the stream is supposed to have a greater depth of water than in any other part. At the extremity of this reach, from a beautiful vale, king Arthur's plain again presents itself, assuming a castellated form. About two miles short of Monmouth, Hadnock-house, the residence of the Rev. Dr. Griffin, demands attention. It is situated upon the edge of the Forest of Dean, and stands upon the brow of a hill, commanding a delightful view of the meandering Wye. Hence a road runs parallel with the river, along the base of the hills, to Monmouth. A distant view of the bridge and town of MONMOUTH soon appears, with the solitary church of Dixon upon the opposite bank of the river,

From Monmouth Mr. Ireland made an excursion to RAGLAND CASTLE. Returning, he resumed his passage down the Wye. The retrospect was pleasing; including the spire of the church, the town, bridge, and surrounding scene. The hills opposite to Monmouth, are called the Kymin Rocks, the summit of which is crowned by the pavilion. This spot commands a most extensive and diversified view. About one mile further is an immense large rock, called the Buck Stone. It is situated upon the extreme edge of the hill, standing upon a point so equipoised,

that by the application of a small force it may be shaken. Approaching the junction of the Munnaw with the Wye, the side scenes of the latter increase in richness both of wood and verdure, with pleasing breaks in the distance. A little below this point, a small river, called the Trothy, unites with the Wye, flowing near a respectable mansion called Troy-house, possessed by the duke of Beaufort, to whom it descended from Sir Charles Somerset.

Amid rich, beautiful, and fertile, though hilly scenery, reach Redbrook, which separates Monmouth from Gloucestershire, where is a manufactory of iron and tin. Half a mile below this place the Wye receives a small stream called Whitebrook. Beyond this spot the river forms a grand sweep, flowing into an abyss, between two ranges of lofty hills, thickly overspread with woods. At about the distance of a mile stands St. Briavels, upon an eminence above the river. The remains of this castle indicate that it has been of considerable extent and of great strength. It was built by Miles, earl of Hereford, in the reign of Henry I. The custody of St. Briavel, with the Forest of Dean, was granted to John de Monmouth, in the 18th year of king John. Hence the views of the surrounding country are extensive and beautiful. Returning to the boat, pass Big's Wear, near which stands the house of general Rooke, whose grandfather captured Gibraltar; and on the opposite side Pilson House appears in the back-ground. Through a range of beautiful scenery pass the extraordinary village of Llandogo, scattered among trees upon the side of a hill. Here the river forms a smooth bay, over which the vessels glide or lay moored to take their freight. The undulating hills called the Hudnell's form a beautiful back-ground to this charming scene.

A little below is Cadithill Weir, whence drop pleasantly down the stream to another village called Brook's Weir, half way from Monmouth to Chepstow. Goods from the former place are here shipped and conveyed in large vessels to Bristol. The river, in an

easy meandering course, soon introduces a view of the most picturesque, including the splendid and very elegant ruins of TINTERN ABBEY, which appear with great effect from the river. In approaching this venerable remain, the steepy hills, the hanging woods, the rolling stream, the nodding ruin, the surviving monuments of fallen grandeur and beauty in decay; the opening vacancy, the stillness and retirement, all aid the enthusiasm of the spectator, who forgets for a moment that he is connected with the busy world. Who is there that does not regret the wreck and rapacity produced by the revolution of opinion, and the desolation here made by the last Henry, who, under the pretence of religious zeal, displayed the ravaging arm of an insensible barbarian. The small gothic gate at the entrance, was evidently an adjunct of the abbey.

Having passed much beautiful scenery nearly in the style of that at Tintern, the east bank of the Wye presents a screen of rocks not unlike those of Coldwell, called the Thorn and Black cliffs. The Wye is here disturbed by the influx of the tide, and marshy land appears upon its shores. The rocks which terminate the grounds at PIERCEFIELD are next approached. They are 12 in number, bearing the names of the apostles; a thirteenth is denominated St. Peter's thumb. They resemble the bastions of a castle, and return a surprising reverberation of sound. A little lower pass the precipitate rock called the Lover's Leap. A circular bend of the river next discovers the noble ruin of CHEPSTOW CASTLE, placed upon the highest part of an immense perpendicular rock. This majestic remains is from this point highly interesting. The ancient gothic entrance, partly in ruins; the irregular breaks and prominencies, in the form of the building, which is a mixture of the Norman and Saxon styles, are in many parts overgrown with large clumps of ivy and variegated shrubs; sometimes beautifully clustered among the fragments of the castle, and again falling

down and enriching the white and awful cliff below. The adjoining bridge is calculated to add to the general effect of the landscape.

From Chepstow **PIERCEFIELD** may very conveniently be visited; a spot to which nature has been uncommonly profuse, not only in the disposition of the beautiful slopes and waving lawns which form the grounds, but in the extensive and diversified scenery which strikes the eye from every point. Mr. Ireland in passing still further down the stream found that the high impending screen of rocks on each side of the river, rendered the passage delightful. Among these he noticed particularly the Red Rocks, and Hardwick Cliff, as peculiarly attractive. In the latter large apertures have been dug, extending 40 or 50 yards from the entrance. In this vicinity is a remarkably fine well of water, which gives the name **Thornwell** to a beautiful range of woods, adjoining the termination of Hardwick cliff. At Ewan's rocks, about a mile below, the Severn breaks extensively to view; but at the conflux of the Wye, or in the vicinity of **BEACHLEY** (the old passage-house) it is seen to greater advantage. The distant hills of Gloucestershire and Somersetshire, beautifully intersecting each other in varied tints, while intervening castles, villages, and mansions of the wealthy, on the opposite shore, richly diversify the whole. The distance composed of Walton-hills, about 10 miles below, breaks harmoniously, forming a happy termination across King-road and the Bristol channel. Hence groups of vessels, constantly moored near the mouth of the Bristol Avon, though at the distance of three miles, are perfectly distinguishable.

Mr. Coxe appears to have been much gratified in performing the navigation of the Wye. "The Banks," he says, "for the most part, rise abruptly from the edge of the water, and are clothed with forests broken into cliffs. In some places they approach so near, that the river occupies the whole intermediate

space, and nothing is seen but wood, rocks, and water; in others, they alternately recede, and the eye catches an occasional glimpse of hamlets, ruins, and detached buildings, partly seated on the margin of the stream, and partly scattered on the rising grounds. The general character of the scenery, however, is wildness and solitude; and if we except the populous district of Monmouth, no river perhaps flows for so long a course through a well cultivated country, the banks of which exhibit so few habitations." Convenient vessels, adapted for holding eight persons besides the boatman, provided with an awning, may be had at Hereford and Monmouth. Mr. Coxe dwells much on the description of the Coldwell Rocks and Symond's Gate or Yat. The latter is not less than 2000 feet above the water. The river here makes a singular turn; for though the direct distance by land is not more than 600 yards, the course by water exceeds 4 miles.

In continuing the navigation of the Wye to Tintern Abbey, Mr. Coxe particularly notices the romantic village of Redbrook, the church and castle of St. Briavel, the beautifully situated hamlet of Llando, and Brook's Weir. At the latter place the river exhibits the appearance of trade and activity, and is the point where the maritime and internal navigations form a junction. Vessels from 30 to 90 tons, from Bristol and the Somersetshire ports, frequently lie here, waiting for the tide, which seldom flows to any considerable height above this place.

The usual practice is to go from Hereford to Ross in a carriage, and thence in a boat to Chepstow; but the beautiful scenery on the banks of the Wye is omitted. Mr. Warner thinks there is no mode of seeing the numerous and varied beauties of this river so satisfactorily as by tracing its sinuosities on foot; and the following is the route he pursued. Crossed the Wye at Castle-green, and struck through the grounds and farm-yard of Rotherwas, an elegant family mansion. Dynedor hill lay before, and the

Roman encampment, which receives its name from it, on the left. Hence he took a farewell view of Hereford and its neighbourhood, the adjoining hills, and the black mountain, that striking boundary to the north-west, and enjoyed a diversified and sweeping prospect to the opposite point. Our approach to Home-Lacy was by a gradual descent of nearly one mile, through a rich productive country. This is one of the many houses belonging to his grace the duke of Norfolk. The older part of it displays the awkward style of Elizabeth's time; the more modern part was built about the beginning of last century. Its situation is quiet and retired, commanding a beautiful and confined view in front.

Home-Lacy was for some centuries in the ancient family of the Scudamores, whose ancestor, St. Scudamore, (so called from the *scutum amoris divini*, which he took for his arms) attended William the Conqueror in his expedition to England. Philip Scudamore, a descendant, settled here in the 14th century. This was the principal seat of the family till the year 1716, when the last viscount Scudamore dying, the estate vested in his only child, a daughter. By Charles Fitzroy Scudamore, Esq. (her second husband) she also had a daughter, to whom the property descended. This lady married the late duke of Norfolk in 1771, and added Home-Lacy to the princely domains of that nobleman. It was the last viscount Scudamore who rebuilt the greatest part of the manor-house. He was the friend of Pope, who frequently wooed the muses here. The good taste of the duke of Norfolk, allows the mansion to remain unaltered. The family portraits, and elaborate carvings by Gibbons, but little inferior to those at Petworth and Chatsworth, are still a part of their venerable ornaments. The apartments are decorated with many valuable paintings, by Vandyck, Janson, Holbein, and other artists. Here is a very capital picture by Hamilton, of Solomon, and the Queen of Sheba; and Louis XIII. and his Queen, by Beaubrun,

contemporary with Vandyck. In the cabinet is a sketch of the great lord Stafford, in crayons, from Vandyck, by Pope. The grounds at Home-Lacy are very pleasant. The old garden, on the south front, was formed on the model of Hampton Court, in Middlesex, and is a very spacious terrace. The yew-trees, originally clipped into grotesque shapes, have been left to regain their foliage.

Ascending the hill into the park, the scenery becomes more noble, and the landscape more expanded. From the upper part of it are commanding prospects of the Gloucestershire hills, the black mountains in Monmouthshire and Brecon; those over Hereford and Bredwardine, with Robin-hood's Butts; and the Clee-hills in Shropshire. Near the parsonage-house is a remarkable Pear-tree, covering nearly a quarter of an acre, and forming an orchard of itself, having yielded for many years from 12 to 16 hogsheads of perry. It is accounted for as follows. A large branch having broken by the wind, its head fell to the ground, the but still adhering to the trunk. Some time after it appeared to have struck into the ground, taken root, and formed a scion. Willing to humour this *lusus naturæ*, the incumbent gave directions for other layers to be made from the tree in a similar manner, which became rooted and bear fruit. Opposite Home-Lacy, at the bottom of an extensive meadow, is a ferry to the village of Fownhope. Passing this place about half a mile to the north is an ancient camp; and twice that distance to the north is another, occupying the summit of an eminence called Caplar-hill; the latter camp is doubly trenched and called Woldbury. This hill is finely wooded; the prospects from it are extensive and rich; among which the vagarious Wye forms a striking feature. Here the river makes a capricious turn to the south, and leads the pedestrian, who follows its banks, a circuitous walk of six miles to Fowley Court, a venerable mansion of the time of queen

Elizabeth, and anciently belonged to Sir John Kyrle, an ancestor of the "Man of Ross."

To the village of How-Caple, the direct path is two miles. Inclosed by a reach of the river below Fawley, is Ingeston-house, an old and spacious brick mansion, long the residence of the Hoskyns family. On the banks of the Wye, nearly opposite to Ingeston, at a place called Hole in the Wall, are the remains of an ancient building, the site is now partly occupied by many cottages. About one mile lower down, on the Wye, is another of the ancient camps which form a chain upon the eminences in this part of the country. It occupies the summit of Eaton hill; the entrenchments are very perfect and deep; the area is cultivated. A farm-house at Eaton displays vestiges of an ancient mansion; the ground about it is called the Park of Eaton. Opposite to Ross, on the west bank of the Wye, are the ruins of Wilton Castle. GOODRICH-CASTLE, the ancient family seat of the Talbots, rises upon the opposite bank of the river, at the distance of four miles from Wilton. Proceeding to Hensham Ferry, a considerable sweep of the river is left which contains no features particularly interesting. Again crossing the Wye, you turn immediately into a path through the meadows on its banks. Here the scene becomes truly majestic. The Coldwell rocks, rising to a towering height on the right, alternately start through the thick woods which mantle their sides in lofty pointed crags; and display broad masses of their surface, relieved by creeping lichens, and diversified with mineral tinges. Hence Mr. Warner's course led him up a steep and winding ascent to the summit of Symond's rock, a stupendous precipice. Hence the river, just crossed, with its contiguous scenery, appears spread beneath. In an opposite direction are seen the New Weir and iron-works; a short and capricious turn of the river, the Doward rocks, and a huge insulated crag, little inferior to the cliff from which it is seen. At the new Weir it

is again necessary to cross the river to follow its meanders. On the right for more than half a mile continues a bold steep bank covered with beech-trees.

The Doward rocks constituting a very grand feature of the Wye, now begin to open, opposite to which is a fine echo, from near a spreading beech-tree, in the middle of the meadow. This path leads to the turnpike-road from Ross to MONMOUTH, which runs parallel with the river for some distance, commanding a glorious view of the Wye. Passing the bridge at Monmouth over the Wye, and turning into the meadows near its margin, at the distance of little better than half a mile, the river makes another grand sweep to the right, and assumes a new character. Dismissing its rocks and precipices, it rolls through lofty sloping hills thickly covered with waving woods. All here is solemn, still, and soothing. An agreeable variety, however, soon occurs, at the picturesque village of Redbrook, a busy scene, enlivened by active industry in various forms. Whitebrook, another hamlet, presently succeeds; to the left of which, on a commanding elevation, is seen the village of St. Briaval's, with its church and castle. The singular village of Llandogo, which next opens, is disposed upon a lofty hill, the indented side of which is mantled with deep woods, with many small cottages intermingled. The river next takes a sharp turn to the left to Caerdithel, in a descent of several feet in a distance of half a mile. At the populous village of Brookswear, the Severn hoys ascend to receive the lading of the Wye barges; where Mr. Warner left, for a short time, the banks of the river, to wind up a narrow lane for another mile. He then attained the summit of a hill, from which a prospect appeared of extraordinary richness and variety. Behind, the fairy regions of Llandogo, the busy village of Brookswear, deeply embosomed in wood; and the crystalline river, studded with vessels. In front, the village of Tintern, with the diversified scenery of the dale in which it stands,

and the lofty ruins of its abbey. Descending the hill and again across the Wye, Mr. Warner proceeded to the Beaufort Arms, a comfortable Inn.

MINERALS AND FOSSILS.

Among the minerals are limestone, like marble, near Snodhill Castle; Fuller's Earth near Stoke; Marble near Ledbury; Red Hematite, Red Feldspar Quartz, at the foot of the Herefordshire Beacon, two miles east from Ledbury; Gneiss, Sandstone, Granular Quartz, Hornblende Steatite, Breccia, at Holybush Hill, three miles south-east of Ledbury; Quartzose Sandstone, containing Mica and impressions of Madreporites and Terebratulites, at Swinnit Hill, three miles from Ledbury; Argillaceous rock, containing Madreporite, Porpita, and turbinated Madreporite, in a lane leading from Colwall Green to Wych, four miles from Ledbury; large limestone quarries containing calcareous spar with red Sulphate of Barytes and many shells, at Eventon.

Considerable quantities of saffron were formerly produced in this county, and in the gardens situated in the suburbs of Hereford. This did not escape the notice of our provincial poet:

“ Can Tmolus' head

“ Vie with our saffron odours?”

Its culture, however, has long been discontinued here, and principally attended to in the counties of Essex and Cambridge, but the purple crocus (*colchicum autumnale*,) which belongs to the sixth class of Linnæus, blossoms in the meadows by the Wye in the month of September. The *crocus sativus*, which produces saffron, belongs to the third class of Linnæus.

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